

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
14 December 2000 (14.12.2000)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 00/75338 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C12N 15/51,  
C07K 14/18, 16/18, A61K 38/00, 39/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/15446

(22) International Filing Date: 2 June 2000 (02.06.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/137,693 4 June 1999 (04.06.1999) US

(63) Related by continuation (CON) or continuation-in-part (CIP) to earlier application:  
US 60/137,693 (CON)  
Filed on 4 June 1999 (04.06.1999)

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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

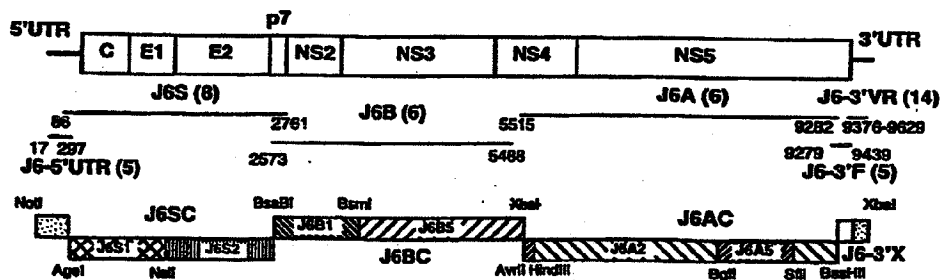
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CLONED GENOME OF INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS C VIRUS OF GENOTYPE 2a AND USES THEREOF



(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses nucleic acid sequence which encodes infectious hepatitis C virus of strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>, genotype 2a, and the use of the sequence, and polypeptides encoded by all or part of the sequence, in the development of vaccines and diagnostics for HCV and in the development of screening assays for the identification of antiviral agents for HCV.

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Title Of Invention

Cloned Genome Of Infectious  
Hepatitis C Virus of Genotype 2a And Uses Thereof

Field Of Invention

The present invention relates to molecular approaches to the production of nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of infectious hepatitis C virus. In particular, the invention provides a nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of an infectious hepatitis C virus of genotype 2a. The invention therefore relates to the use of the nucleic acid sequence and polypeptides encoded by all or part of the sequence in the development of vaccines and diagnostic assays for HCV and in the development of screening assays for the identification of antiviral agents for HCV.

Background Of Invention

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) has a positive-sense single-strand RNA genome and is a member of the genus *Hepacivirus* within the *Flaviviridae* family of viruses (Rice, 1996). As for all positive-stranded RNA viruses, the genome of HCV functions as mRNA from which all viral proteins necessary for propagation are translated.

The viral genome of HCV is approximately 9600 nucleotides (nts) in length and consists of a highly conserved 5' untranslated region (UTR), a single long open reading frame (ORF) of approximately 9,000 nts and a complex 3' UTR. The 5' UTR contains an internal ribosomal entry site (Tsukiyama-Kohara et al., 1992;

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0 Honda et al., 1996). The 3' UTR consists of a short  
variable region, a polypyrimidine tract of variable  
length and, at the 3' end, a highly conserved region of  
approximately 100 nucleotides (Kolykhalov et al., 1996;  
5 Tanaka et al., 1995; Tanaka et al., 1996; Yamada et al.,  
1996). The last 46 nucleotides of this conserved region  
were predicted to form a stable stem-loop structure  
thought to be critical for viral replication (Blight and  
10 Rice, 1997; Ito and Lai, 1997; Tsuchihara et al., 1997).  
The ORF encodes a large polypeptide precursor that is  
cleaved into at least 10 proteins by host and viral  
proteinases (Rice, 1996). The predicted envelope  
proteins contain several conserved N-linked  
15 glycosylation sites and cysteine residues (Okamoto et  
al., 1992a). The NS3 gene encodes a serine protease and  
an RNA helicase and the NS5B gene encodes an RNA-  
dependent RNA polymerase.

20 A remarkable characteristic of HCV is its  
genetic heterogeneity, which is manifested throughout  
the genome (Bukh et al., 1995). The most heterogeneous  
regions of the genome are found in the envelope genes,  
in particular the hypervariable region 1 (HVR1) at the  
25 N-terminus of E2 (Hijikata et al., 1991; Weiner et al.,  
1991). HCV circulates as a quasispecies of closely  
related genomes in an infected individual. Globally,  
six major HCV genotypes (genotypes 1-6) and multiple  
30 subtypes (a, b, c, etc.) have been identified (Bukh et  
al., 1993; Simmonds et al., 1993).

The nucleotide and deduced amino acid  
sequences among isolates within a quasispecies generally  
differ by < 2%, whereas those between isolates of  
35 different genotypes vary by as much as 35%. Genotypes

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1, 2 and 3 are found worldwide and constitute more than 90% of the HCV infections in North and South America, Europe, Russia, China, Japan and Australia (Forns and Bukh, 1998). Throughout these regions genotype 1 accounts for the majority of HCV infections but genotypes 2 and 3 each account for 5-15%.

At present, more than 80% of individuals infected with HCV become chronically infected and these chronically infected individuals have a relatively high risk of developing chronic hepatitis, liver cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma (Hoofnagle, 1997). The only effective therapy for chronic hepatitis C, interferon (IFN), alone or in combination with ribavirin, induces a sustained response in less than 50% of treated patients (Davis et al., 1998; McHutchinson et al., 1998). Consequently, HCV is currently the most common cause of end stage liver failure and the reason for about 30% of liver transplants performed in the U.S. (Hoofnagle, 1997). In addition, a number of recent studies suggested that the severity of liver disease and the outcome of therapy may be genotype-dependent (reviewed in Bukh et al., 1997). In particular, these studies suggested that infection with HCV genotype 1b was associated with more severe liver disease (Brechot, 1997) and a poorer response to IFN therapy (Fried and Hoofnagle, 1995). As a result of the inability to develop a universally effective therapy against HCV infection, it is estimated that there are still more than 25,000 new infections yearly in the U.S. (Alter 1997) Moreover, since there is no vaccine for HCV, HCV remains a serious public health problem.

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Despite the intense interest in the development of vaccines and therapies for HCV, progress has been hindered by the absence of a useful cell culture system and the lack of any small animal model for laboratory study. For example, while replication of HCV in several cell lines has been reported, such observations have turned out not to be highly reproducible. In addition, the chimpanzee is the only animal model, other than man, for this disease. Consequently, HCV has been studied only by using clinical materials obtained from patients or experimentally infected chimpanzees, an animal model whose availability is very limited.

However, several researchers have recently reported the construction of infectious cDNA clones of HCV, the identification of which would permit a more effective search for susceptible cell lines and facilitate molecular analysis of the viral genes and their function. For example, Yoo et al., and Dash et al., (1997) (1995) reported that RNA transcripts from cDNA clones of HCV-1 (genotype 1a) and HCV-N (genotype 1b), respectively, resulted in viral replication after transfection into human hepatoma cell lines. Unfortunately, the viability of these clones was not tested in vivo and concerns were raised about the infectivity of these cDNA clones in vitro (Fausto, 1997). In addition, both clones did not contain the terminal 98 conserved nucleotides at the very 3' end of the UTR.

Kolykhalov et al., (1997) and Yanagi et al. (1997, 1998) reported the derivation from HCV strains H77 (genotype 1a) and HC-J4 (genotype 1b) of cDNA clones

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of HCV that are infectious for chimpanzees. However, while these infectious clones will aid in studying HCV replication and pathogenesis and will provide an important tool for development of in vitro replication and propagation systems, it is important to have infectious clones of more than one genotype, given the extensive genetic heterogeneity of HCV and the potential impact of such heterogeneity on the development of effective therapies and vaccines for HCV.

In addition, synthetic chimeric viruses can be used to map the functional regions of viruses with different phenotypes. In flaviviruses and pestiviruses, infectious chimeric viruses have been successfully engineered to express different functional units of related viruses (Bray and Lai, 1991; Pletnev et al., 1992, 1998; Vassilev et al., 1997) and in some cases it has been possible to make chimeras between non-related or distantly related viruses. For instance, the IRES element of poliovirus or bovine viral diarrhoea virus has been replaced with IRES sequences from HCV (Frolov et al., 1998; Lu and Wimmer, 1996; Zhao et al., 1999). Recently, the construction of an infectious chimera of two closely related HCV subtypes has been reported. The chimera contained the complete ORF of a genotype 1b strain but had the 5' and 3' termini of a genotype 1a strain (Yanagi et al., 1998).

It is important to determine whether chimeras constructed from more divergent HCV strains are infectious because such chimeras could be used to define the functions of viral units and to dissect the immune response.

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Summary Of The Invention

5 The present invention relates to nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of infectious hepatitis C virus and in particular, nucleic acid  
10 sequence which comprises the genome of infectious hepatitis C virus of genotype 2a. It is therefore an object of the invention to provide nucleic acid sequence which encodes infectious hepatitis C virus. Such  
15 nucleic acid sequence is referred to throughout the application as "infectious nucleic acid sequence".

For the purposes of this application, nucleic acid sequence refers to RNA, DNA, cDNA or any variant thereof capable of directing host organism synthesis of  
20 a hepatitis C virus polypeptide. It is understood that nucleic acid sequence encompasses nucleic acid sequences, which due to degeneracy, encode the same polypeptide sequence as the nucleic acid sequences described herein.

The invention also relates to the use of the infectious nucleic acid sequences to produce chimeric genomes consisting of portions of the open reading frames of nucleic acid sequences of other genotypes  
25 (including, but not limited to, genotypes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6) and subtypes (including, but not limited to, subtypes 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 4a-4f, 5a and 6a) of HCV. For example, infectious nucleic acid sequence of  
30 the 2a strain HC-J6, described herein can be used to produce chimeras with sequences from the genomes of other strains of HCV from different genotypes or subtypes. Nucleic acid sequences which comprise sequences from two or more HCV genotypes or subtypes are  
35 designated "chimeric nucleic acid sequences".

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0 The invention further relates to mutations of  
the infectious nucleic acid sequence of the invention  
where mutation includes, but is not limited to, point  
mutations, deletions and insertions. In one embodiment,  
5 a gene or fragment thereof can be deleted to determine  
the effect of the deleted gene or genes on the  
properties of the encoded virus such as its virulence  
and its ability to replicate. In an alternative  
10 embodiment, a mutation may be introduced into the  
infectious nucleic acid sequences to examine the effect  
of the mutation on the properties of the virus.

The invention also relates to the introduction  
of mutations or deletions into the infectious nucleic  
15 acid sequence in order to produce an attenuated  
hepatitis C virus suitable for vaccine development.

The invention further relates to the use of  
the infectious nucleic acid sequence to produce  
attenuated viruses via passage in vitro or in vivo of  
20 the viruses produced by transfection of a host cell with  
the infectious nucleic acid sequence.

The present invention also relates to the use  
of the nucleic acid sequence of the invention or  
25 fragments thereof in the production of polypeptides  
where "nucleic acid sequence of the invention" refers to  
infectious nucleic acid sequence, mutations of  
infectious nucleic acid sequence, chimeric nucleic acid  
sequence and sequences which comprise the genome of  
30 attenuated viruses produced from the infectious nucleic  
acid sequence of the invention. In one embodiment, said  
polypeptide or polypeptides are fully or partially  
purified from hepatitis C virus produced by cells  
35 transfected with nucleic acid sequence of the invention.



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In another embodiment, the polypeptide or polypeptides are produced recombinantly from a fragment of the nucleic acid sequences of the invention. In yet another embodiment, the polypeptides are chemically synthesized.

5           The polypeptides of the invention, especially structural polypeptides, can serve as immunogens in the development of vaccines or as antigens in the development of diagnostic assays for detecting the presence of HCV in biological samples.

10           The invention therefore also relates to vaccines for use in immunizing mammals especially humans against hepatitis C. In one embodiment, the vaccine comprises one or more polypeptides made from the nucleic acid sequence of the invention or fragment thereof. In 15 a second embodiment, the vaccine comprises a hepatitis C virus produced by transfection of host cells with the nucleic acid sequences of the invention.

20           The present invention therefore relates to methods for preventing hepatitis C in a mammal. In one embodiment the method comprises administering to a mammal a polypeptide or polypeptides encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of the invention in an amount 25 effective to induce protective immunity to hepatitis C. In another embodiment, the method of prevention comprises administering to a mammal a hepatitis C virus of the invention in an amount effective to induce protective immunity against hepatitis C.

30           In yet another embodiment, the method of protection comprises administering to a mammal the nucleic acid sequence of the invention or a fragment thereof in an amount effective to induce protective 35 immunity against hepatitis C.

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The invention also relates to hepatitis C viruses produced by host cells transfected with the nucleic acid sequence of the present invention.

The invention therefore also provides  
5 pharmaceutical compositions comprising the nucleic acid sequence of the invention and/or the encoded hepatitis C viruses. The invention further provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising polypeptides encoded by the  
10 nucleic acid sequence of the invention or fragments thereof. The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention may be used prophylactically or therapeutically.

The invention also relates to antibodies to  
15 the hepatitis C virus of the invention or their encoded polypeptides and to pharmaceutical compositions comprising these antibodies.

The invention also relates to the use of the  
20 nucleic acid sequences of the invention to identify cell lines capable of supporting the replication of HCV in vitro.

The invention further relates to the use of  
25 the nucleic acid sequences of the invention or their encoded viral enzymes (e.g. NS3 serine protease, NS3 helicase, NS5B RNA polymerase) to develop screening assays to identify antiviral agents for HCV.

### 30 Brief Description Of Figures

Figure 1 shows the amplification and cloning  
of hepatitis C virus genotype 2a (strain HC-J6<sub>ch</sub>). The  
nucleotide positions correspond to the sequence of  
PJ6CF, a full length cDNA clone of hepatitis C virus,  
35 genotype 2a, strain HC-J6<sub>ch</sub>. Products from polymerase

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chain reaction are also shown. The names of the clones obtained from these products are indicated (number of clones sequenced are shown in parenthesis). The composition of the full-length cDNA clone is shown at the bottom. The restriction enzymes used for cloning are indicated. An *Xba*I site in HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> was eliminated by a silent substitution at position 5494.

Figure 2 shows tree analysis of clones amplified from an infectious acute phase plasma pool generated in a chimpanzee inoculated with human plasma containing strain HC-J6 (Okamoto et al., 1991) as well as a tree of the predicted polyprotein sequence of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> and the infectious HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> cDNA clone (pJ6CF). The nucleotide positions with deletions or insertions were stripped in the analysis of the clones. Multiple sequence alignments and tree analyses were performed with GeneWorks (Oxford Molecular Group) (Bukh et al., 1995). Genotype designations are indicated. Other sequences included in the analysis are HC-J8 (Okamoto et al., 1992), genotype 1a infectious clone BEBE1 (Nakao et al., 1996), H77C (Yanagi et al., 1997); genotype 1b infectious clone J4L6S (Yanagi et al., 1998). The scale in each tree indicates the calculated genetic distance.

Figure 3 shows the alignment of the hypervariable region 1 sequences from 8 J6S clones of strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>. HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> represents the consensus amino acid sequence of the infectious plasma pool from an experimentally infected chimpanzee. HC-J6 is the published amino acid sequence of the original inoculum (Okamoto et al., 1991).

Figure 4 shows the construction of four intertypic chimeric cDNA clones. White boxes are

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sequences derived from genotype 2a clone pJ6CF, and  
black boxes are sequences derived from genotype 1a clone  
pCV-H77C (Yanagi et al., 1997). An *NdeI* site (mutation  
at position 9158 of pCV-H77C) was eliminated and an  
artificial *NdeI* site (mutation at position 2765 of  
5 pCV-H77C) was created by site-directed mutagenesis;  
silent mutations are underlined.

Figures 5A and 5B show the alignment of the  
nucleotide sequences of the 5' (Fig. 5A) and 3' UTRs  
(Fig. 5B) and the amino acid sequences of E2/p7/NS2  
10 junctions (Fig. 5B) in the intertypic 1a, 2a chimeric  
cDNA clones. In the 5' UTR alignment, the first 39 nts  
of core believed to be important for the IRES function  
were included (Lemon and Honda, 1997). Top line: the  
15 sequence of the infectious genotype 1a clone pCV-H77C  
(Yanagi et al., 1997). Bottom line: the sequence of the  
infectious genotype 2a clone pJ6CF. Dot: identity with  
the sequence of H77C. Capital letter: different from the  
sequence of H77C. Dash: deletion. Bold face: initiation  
20 or stop codon of the ORF. Underlined: *AgeI* cleavage  
site. Arrow: putative sites in the HCV polyprotein  
cleaved by host signal peptidases. Numbering  
corresponds to the sequence of pCV-H77C.

25 Figures 6A-6F show the nucleotide sequence of  
the infectious hepatitis C virus clone of genotype 1a  
strain H77C and Figures 6G-6H show the amino acid  
sequence encoded by the clone.

30 Figures 7A-7F show the nucleotide sequence of  
the infectious hepatitis C virus clone of genotype 1b  
strain HC-J4 and Figures 7G-H show the amino acid  
sequence encoded by the clone.

35

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

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DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of an infectious hepatitis C virus. More specifically, the invention  
5 relates to nucleic acid sequence which encodes infectious hepatitis C virus of strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>, genotype 2a. The infectious nucleic acid sequence of the invention is shown in SEQ ID NO:1 and is contained in a  
10 plasmid construct deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) on May 28, 1999 and having ATCC accession number PTA-153.

The invention also relates to "chimeric nucleic acid sequences" where the chimeric nucleic acid  
15 sequences consist of open-reading frame sequences and/or 5' and/or 3' untranslated sequences taken from nucleic acid sequences of hepatitis C viruses of different genotypes or subtypes.

In one embodiment, the chimeric nucleic acid  
20 sequence consists of sequence from the genome of infectious HCV of genotype 2a which encodes structural polypeptides and sequence from the genome of a HCV of a different genotype or subtype which encodes  
25 nonstructural polypeptides.

Alternatively, the nonstructural region of infectious HCV of genotype 2a and structural region of a HCV of a different genotype or subtype may be combined.  
30 This will result in a chimeric nucleic acid sequence consisting of sequence from the genome of infectious HCV of genotype 2a which encodes nonstructural polypeptides and sequence from the genome of a HCV of a another  
35 genotype or subtype which encodes structural polypeptides.

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Preferably, the nucleic acid sequence from the genome of the infectious HCV clone of genotype 1a (deposited with the ATCC on June 2, 1999 ; Figures 6A-6F), or the nucleic acid sequence from the genome of the infectious HCV clone of genotype 1b (ATCC accession number 209596; Figures 7A-7F) is used to construct the chimeric nucleic acid sequence with the HCV of genotype 2a of the invention.

It is believed that the construction of such chimeric nucleic acid sequences will be of importance in studying the growth and virulence properties of hepatitis C virus and in the production of candidate hepatitis C virus vaccines suitable to confer protection against multiple genotypes of HCV. For example, one might produce a "multivalent" vaccine by putting epitopes from several genotypes or subtypes into one clone. Alternatively one might replace just a single gene from an infectious sequence with the corresponding gene from the genomic sequence of a strain from another genotype or subtype or create a chimeric gene which contains portions of a gene from two genotypes or subtypes. Examples of genes which could be replaced or which could be made chimeric, include, but are not limited to, the E1, E2 and NS4 genes.

The invention further relates to mutations of the infectious nucleic acid sequences where "mutations" include, but are not limited to, point mutations, deletions and insertions. Of course, one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the size of the insertions would be limited by the ability of the resultant nucleic acid sequence to be properly packaged within the virion. Such mutations could be produced by

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techniques known to those of skill in the art such as site-directed mutagenesis, fusion PCR, and restriction digestion followed by religation.

In one embodiment, mutagenesis might be undertaken to determine sequences that are important for viral properties such as replication or virulence. For example, one may introduce a mutation into the infectious nucleic acid sequence which eliminates the cleavage site between the NS4A and NS4B polypeptides to examine the effects on viral replication and processing of the polypeptide.

Alternatively, one may delete all or part of a gene or of the 5' or 3' nontranslated region contained in an infectious nucleic acid sequence and then transfect a host cell (animal or cell culture) with the mutated sequence and measure viral replication in the host by methods known in the art such as RT-PCR. Preferred genes include, but are not limited to, the P7, NS4B and NS5A genes. Of course, those of ordinary skill in the art will understand that deletion of part of a gene, preferably the central portion of the gene, may be preferable to deletion of the entire gene in order to conserve the cleavage site boundaries which exist between proteins in the HCV polyprotein and which are necessary for proper processing of the polyprotein.

In the alternative, if the transfection is into a host animal such as a chimpanzee, one can monitor the virulence phenotype of the virus produced by transfection of the mutated infectious nucleic acid sequence by methods known in the art such as measurement of liver enzyme levels (alanine aminotransferase (ALT) or isocitrate dehydrogenase (ICD)) or by histopathology

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of liver biopsies. Thus, mutations of the infectious nucleic acid sequences may be useful in the production of attenuated HCV strains suitable for vaccine use.

The invention also relates to the use of the infectious nucleic acid sequence of the present invention to produce attenuated viral strains via passage in vitro or in vivo of the virus produced by transfection with the infectious nucleic acid sequence.

The present invention therefore relates to the use of the nucleic acid sequence of the invention to identify cell lines capable of supporting the replication of HCV.

In particular, it is contemplated that the mutations of the infectious nucleic acid sequence of the invention and the production of chimeric sequences as discussed above may be useful in identifying sequences critical for cell culture adaptation of HCV and hence, may be useful in identifying cell lines capable of supporting HCV replication.

Transfection of tissue culture cells with the nucleic acid sequences of the invention may be done by methods of transfection known in the art such as electroporation, precipitation with DEAE-Dextran or calcium phosphate or liposomes.

In one such embodiment, the method comprises the growing of animal cells, especially human cells, in vitro and transfecting the cells with the nucleic acid of the invention, then determining if the cells show indicia of HCV infection. Such indicia include the detection of viral antigens in the cell, for example, by immunofluorescence procedures well known in the art; the detection of viral polypeptides by Western blotting



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0 using antibodies specific therefor; and the detection of newly transcribed viral RNA within the cells via methods such as RT-PCR. The presence of live, infectious virus particles following such tests may also be shown by  
5 injection of cell culture medium or cell lysates into healthy, susceptible animals, with subsequent exhibition of the signs and symptoms of HCV infection.

Suitable cells or cell lines for culturing HCV include, but are not limited to, lymphocyte and  
10 hepatocyte cell lines known in the art.

Alternatively, primary hepatocytes can be cultured, and then infected with HCV; or, the hepatocyte cultures could be derived from the livers of infected  
15 chimpanzees. In addition, various immortalization methods known to those of ordinary skill in the art can be used to obtain cell lines derived from hepatocyte cultures. For example, primary hepatocyte cultures may be fused to a variety of cells to maintain stability.  
20

The present invention further relates to the in vitro and in vivo production of hepatitis C viruses from the nucleic acid sequences of the invention.

In one embodiment, the sequences of the  
25 invention can be inserted into an expression vector that functions in eukaryotic cells. Eukaryotic expression vectors suitable for producing high efficiency gene transfer in vivo are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art and include, but are not limited to,  
30 plasmids, vaccinia viruses, retroviruses, adenoviruses and adeno-associated viruses.

In another embodiment, the sequences contained in the recombinant expression vector can be transcribed  
35 in vitro by methods known to those of ordinary skill in

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the art in order to produce RNA transcripts which encode the hepatitis C viruses of the invention. The hepatitis C viruses of the invention may then be produced by transfecting cells by methods known to those of ordinary skill in the art with either the in vitro transcription mixture containing the RNA transcripts or with the recombinant expression vectors containing the nucleic acid sequences described herein.

The hepatitis C viruses produced from the sequences of the invention may be purified or partially purified from the transfected cells by methods known to those of ordinary skill in the art. In a preferred embodiment, the viruses are partially purified prior to their use as immunogens in the pharmaceutical compositions and vaccines of the present invention.

The present invention therefore relates to the use of the hepatitis C viruses produced from the nucleic acid sequences of the invention as immunogens in live or killed (e.g., formalin inactivated) vaccines to prevent hepatitis C in a mammal.

In an alternative embodiment, the immunogen of the present invention may be an infectious nucleic acid sequence, a chimeric nucleic acid sequence, or a mutated infectious nucleic acid sequence which encodes a hepatitis C virus. Where the sequence is a cDNA sequence, the cDNAs and their RNA transcripts may be used to transfect a mammal by direct injection into the liver tissue of the mammal as described in the Examples.

Alternatively, direct gene transfer may be accomplished via administration of a eukaryotic expression vector containing a nucleic acid sequence of the invention.

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In yet another embodiment, the immunogen may be a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequences of the invention. The present invention therefore also relates to polypeptides produced from the nucleic acid sequences of the invention or fragments thereof. In one  
5 embodiment, polypeptides of the present invention can be recombinantly produced by synthesis from the nucleic acid sequences of the invention or isolated fragments thereof, and purified, or partially purified, from  
10 transfected cells using methods already known in the art. In an alternative embodiment, the polypeptides may be purified or partially purified from viral particles produced via transfection of a host cell with the  
15 nucleic acid sequences of the invention. Such polypeptides might, for example, include either capsid or envelope polypeptides prepared from the sequences of the present invention.

20 When used as immunogens, the nucleic acid sequences of the invention, or the polypeptides or viruses produced therefrom, are preferably partially purified prior to use as immunogens in pharmaceutical compositions and vaccines of the present invention.  
25 When used as a vaccine, the sequences and the polypeptide and virus products thereof, can be administered alone or in a suitable diluent, including, but not limited to, water, saline, or some type of  
30 buffered medium. The vaccine according to the present invention may be administered to an animal, especially a mammal, and most especially a human, by a variety of routes, including, but not limited to, intradermally, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, or in any combination  
35 thereof.

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Suitable amounts of material to administer for prophylactic and therapeutic purposes will vary depending on the route selected and the immunogen (nucleic acid, virus, polypeptide) administered. One skilled in the art will appreciate that the amounts to be administered for any particular treatment protocol can be readily determined without undue experimentation. The vaccines of the present invention may be administered once or periodically until a suitable titer of anti-HCV antibodies appear in the blood. For an immunogen consisting of a nucleic acid sequence, a suitable amount of nucleic acid sequence to be used for prophylactic purposes might be expected to fall in the range of from about 100  $\mu$ g to about 5 mg and most preferably in the range of from about 500  $\mu$ g to about 2mg. For a polypeptide, a suitable amount to use for prophylactic purposes is preferably 100 ng to 100  $\mu$ g and for a virus  $10^2$  to  $10^6$  infectious doses. Such administration will, of course, occur prior to any sign of HCV infection.

A vaccine of the present invention may be employed in such forms as capsules, liquid solutions, suspensions or elixirs for oral administration, or sterile liquid forms such as solutions or suspensions. An inert carrier is preferably used, such as saline or phosphate-buffered saline, or any such carrier in which the HCV of the present invention can be suitably suspended. The vaccines may be in the form of single dose preparations or in multi-dose flasks which can be utilized for mass-vaccination programs of both animals and humans. For purposes of using the vaccines of the present invention reference is made to Remington's

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° Pharmaceutical Sciences, Mack Publishing Co., Easton, Pa., Osol (Ed.) (1980); and New Trends and Developments in Vaccines, Voller et al. (Eds.), University Park Press, Baltimore, Md. (1978), both of which provide much  
5 useful information for preparing and using vaccines. Of course, the polypeptides of the present invention, when used as vaccines, can include, as part of the composition or emulsion, a suitable adjuvant, such as  
10 alum (or aluminum hydroxide) when humans are to be vaccinated, to further stimulate production of antibodies by immune cells. When nucleic acids, viruses or polypeptides are used for vaccination purposes, other specific adjuvants such as CpG motifs (Krieg, A.K. et  
15 al. (1995) and (1996)), may prove useful.

When the nucleic acids, viruses and polypeptides of the present invention are used as vaccines or inocula, they will normally exist as  
20 physically discrete units suitable as a unitary dosage for animals, especially mammals, and most especially humans, wherein each unit will contain a predetermined quantity of active material calculated to produce the desired immunogenic effect in association with the  
25 required diluent. The dose of said vaccine or inoculum according to the present invention is administered at least once. In order to increase the antibody level, a second or booster dose may be administered at some time after the initial dose. The need for, and timing of,  
30 such booster dose will, of course, be determined within the sound judgment of the administrator of such vaccine or inoculum and according to sound principles well known in the art. For example, such booster dose could  
35 reasonably be expected to be advantageous at some time

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between about 2 weeks to about 6 months following the initial vaccination. Subsequent doses may be administered as indicated.

The nucleic acid sequences, viruses and polypeptides of the present invention can also be administered for purposes of therapy, where a mammal, especially a primate, and most especially a human, is already infected, as shown by well known diagnostic measures. When the nucleic acid sequences, viruses or polypeptides of the present invention are used for such therapeutic purposes, much of the same criteria will apply as when it is used as a vaccine, except that inoculation will occur post-infection. Thus, when the nucleic acid sequences, viruses or polypeptides of the present invention are used as therapeutic agents in the treatment of infection, the therapeutic agent comprises a pharmaceutical composition containing a sufficient amount of said nucleic acid sequences, viruses or polypeptides so as to elicit a therapeutically effective response in the organism to be treated. Of course, the amount of pharmaceutical composition to be administered will, as for vaccines, vary depending on the immunogen contained therein (nucleic acid, polypeptide, virus) and on the route of administration.

The therapeutic agent according to the present invention can thus be administered by subcutaneous, intramuscular or intradermal routes. One skilled in the art will certainly appreciate that the amounts to be administered for any particular treatment protocol can be readily determined without undue experimentation. Of course, the actual amounts will vary depending on the route of administration as well as the sex, age, and

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clinical status of the subject which, in the case of human patients, is to be determined with the sound judgment of the clinician.

The therapeutic agent of the present invention can be employed in such forms as capsules, liquid solutions, suspensions or elixirs, or sterile liquid forms such as solutions or suspensions. An inert carrier is preferably used, such as saline, phosphate-buffered saline, or any such carrier in which the HCV of the present invention can be suitably suspended. The therapeutic agents may be in the form of single dose preparations or in the multi-dose flasks which can be utilized for mass-treatment programs of both animals and humans. Of course, when the nucleic acid sequences, viruses or polypeptides of the present invention are used as therapeutic agents they may be administered as a single dose or as a series of doses, depending on the situation as determined by the person conducting the treatment.

The nucleic acids, polypeptides and viruses of the present invention can also be utilized in the production of antibodies against HCV. The term "antibody" is herein used to refer to immunoglobulin molecules and immunologically active portions of immunoglobulin molecules. Examples of antibody molecules are intact immunoglobulin molecules, substantially intact immunoglobulin molecules and portions of an immunoglobulin molecule, including those portions known in the art as Fab, F(ab')<sub>2</sub> and F(v) as well as chimeric antibody molecules.

Thus, the polypeptides, viruses and nucleic acid sequences of the present invention can be used in

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the generation of antibodies that immunoreact (i.e., specific binding between an antigenic determinant-containing molecule and a molecule containing an antibody combining site such as a whole antibody molecule or an active portion thereof) with antigenic determinants on the surface of hepatitis C virus particles.

The present invention therefore also relates to antibodies produced following immunization with the nucleic acid sequences, viruses or polypeptides of the present invention. These antibodies are typically produced by immunizing a mammal with an immunogen or vaccine to induce antibody molecules having immunospecificity for polypeptides or viruses produced in response to infection with the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention. When used in generating such antibodies, the nucleic acid sequences, viruses, or polypeptides of the present invention may be linked to some type of carrier molecule. The resulting antibody molecules are then collected from said mammal. Antibodies produced according to the present invention have the unique advantage of being generated in response to authentic, functional polypeptides produced according to the actual cloned HCV genome.

The antibody molecules of the present invention may be polyclonal or monoclonal. Monoclonal antibodies are readily produced by methods well known in the art. Portions of immunoglobulin molecules, such as Fabs, as well as chimeric antibodies, may also be produced by methods well known to those of ordinary skill in the art of generating such antibodies.



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0 The antibodies according to the present invention may also be contained in blood, plasma, serum, hybridoma supernatants, and the like. Alternatively, the antibody of the present invention is isolated to the extent desired by well known techniques such as, for example, using DEAE Sephadex. The antibodies produced according to the present invention may be further purified so as to obtain specific classes or subclasses of antibody such as IgM, IgG, IgA, and the like. 5 Antibodies of the IgG class are preferred for purposes of passive protection. 10

The antibodies of the present invention are useful in the prevention and treatment of diseases caused by hepatitis C virus in animals, especially mammals, and most especially humans. 15

In providing the antibodies of the present invention to a recipient mammal, preferably a human, the dosage of administered antibodies will vary depending on such factors as the mammal's age, weight, height, sex, general medical condition, previous medical history, and the like. 20

In general, it will be advantageous to provide the recipient mammal with a dosage of antibodies in the range of from about 1 mg/kg body weight to about 10 mg/kg body weight of the mammal, although a lower or higher dose may be administered if found desirable. Such antibodies will normally be administered by intravenous or intramuscular route as an inoculum. The antibodies of the present invention are intended to be provided to the recipient subject in an amount sufficient to prevent, lessen or attenuate the severity, extent or duration of any existing infection. 25 30 35

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5 The antibodies prepared by use of the nucleic acid sequences, viruses or polypeptides of the present invention are also highly useful for diagnostic purposes. For example, the antibodies can be used as in vitro diagnostic agents to test for the presence of HCV in biological samples taken from animals, especially humans. Such assays include, but are not limited to, radioimmunoassays, EIA, fluorescence, Western blot analysis and ELISAs. In one such embodiment, the biological sample is contacted with antibodies of the present invention and a labeled second antibody is used to detect the presence of HCV to which the antibodies are bound.

15 Such assays may be, for example, direct where the labeled first antibody is immunoreactive with the antigen, such as, for example, a polypeptide on the surface of the virus; indirect where a labeled second antibody is reactive with the first antibody; a competitive protocol such as would involve the addition of a labeled antigen; or sandwich where both labeled and unlabeled antibody are used, as well as other protocols well known and described in the art.

25 In one embodiment, an immunoassay method would utilize an antibody specific for HCV envelope determinants and would further comprise the steps of contacting a biological sample with the HCV-specific antibody and then detecting the presence of HCV material in the test sample using one of the types of assay protocols as described above. Polypeptides and antibodies produced according to the present invention may also be supplied in the form of a kit, either present in vials as purified material, or present in

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- ° compositions and suspended in suitable diluents as previously described.

In a preferred embodiment, such a diagnostic test kit for detection of HCV antigens in a test sample comprises in combination a series of containers, each container a reagent needed for such assay. Thus, one such container would contain a specific amount of HCV-specific antibody as already described, a second container would contain a diluent for suspension of the sample to be tested, a third container would contain a positive control and an additional container would contain a negative control. An additional container could contain a blank.

For all prophylactic, therapeutic and diagnostic uses, the antibodies of the invention and other reagents, plus appropriate devices and accessories, may be provided in the form of a kit so as to facilitate ready availability and ease of use.

The present invention also relates to the use of nucleic acid sequences and polypeptides of the present invention to screen potential antiviral agents for antiviral activity against HCV. Such screening methods are known by those of skill in the art.

Generally, the antiviral agents are tested at a variety of concentrations, for their effect on preventing viral replication in cell culture systems which support viral replication, and then for an inhibition of infectivity or of viral pathogenicity (and a low level of toxicity) in an animal model system.

In one embodiment, animal cells (especially human cells) transfected with the nucleic acid sequences of the invention are cultured in vitro and the cells are

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° treated with a candidate antiviral agent (a chemical, peptide etc.) by adding the candidate agent to the medium. The treated cells are then exposed, possibly under transfecting or fusing conditions known in the art, to the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention. A sufficient period of time would then be allowed to pass for infection to occur, following which the presence or absence of viral replication would be determined versus untreated control cells by methods known to those of ordinary skill in the art. Such methods include, but are not limited to, the detection of viral antigens in the cell, for example, by immunofluorescence procedures well known in the art; the detection of viral polypeptides by Western blotting using antibodies specific therefor; the detection of newly transcribed viral RNA within the cells by RT-PCR; and the detection of the presence of live, infectious virus particles by injection of cell culture medium or cell lysates into healthy, susceptible animals, with subsequent exhibition of the signs and symptoms of HCV infection. A comparison of results obtained for control cells (treated only with nucleic acid sequence) with those obtained for treated cells (nucleic acid sequence and antiviral agent) would indicate, the degree, if any, of antiviral activity of the candidate antiviral agent. Of course, one of ordinary skill in the art would readily understand that such cells can be treated with the candidate antiviral agent either before or after exposure to the nucleic acid sequence of the present invention so as to determine what stage, or stages, of viral infection and replication said agent is effective against.

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0 In an alternative embodiment, viral enzyme  
such as NS3 protease, NS2-NS3 protease, NS3 helicase or  
NS5B RNA polymerase may be produced from a nucleic acid  
sequence of the invention and used to screen for  
5 inhibitors which may act as antiviral agents. The  
structural and nonstructural regions of the HCV genome,  
including nucleotide and amino acid locations, have been  
determined, for example, as depicted in Houghton, M.  
(1996), Fig. 1; and Major, M.E. et al. (1997), Table 2.

10 Such above-mentioned protease inhibitors may  
take the form of chemical compounds or peptides which  
mimic the known cleavage sites of the protease and may  
be screened using methods known to those of skill in the  
15 art (Houghton, M. (1996) and Major, M.E. et al. (1997)).  
For example, a substrate may be employed which mimics  
the protease's natural substrate, but which provides a  
detectable signal (e.g. by fluorimetric or colorimetric  
20 methods) when cleaved. This substrate is then incubated  
with the protease and the candidate protease inhibitor  
under conditions of suitable pH, temperature etc. to  
detect protease activity. The proteolytic activities of  
the protease in the presence or absence of the candidate  
25 inhibitor are then determined.

In yet another embodiment, a candidate  
antiviral agent (such as a protease inhibitor) may be  
directly assayed in vivo for antiviral activity by  
30 administering the candidate antiviral agent to a  
chimpanzee transfected with a nucleic acid sequence of  
the invention or infected with a virus of the invention  
and then measuring viral replication in vivo via methods  
such as RT-PCR. Of course, the chimpanzee may be  
35 treated with the candidate agent either before or after

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transfection with the infectious nucleic acid sequence or infected with a virus of the invention so as to determine what stage, or stages, of viral infection and replication the agent is effective against.

The invention also provides that the nucleic acid sequences, viruses and polypeptides of the invention may be supplied in the form of a kit, alone or in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

All scientific publication and/or patents cited herein are specifically incorporated by reference. The following examples illustrate various aspects of the invention but are in no way intended to limit the scope thereof.

#### EXAMPLES

##### Materials and Methods

###### Source of HCV

An infectious plasma pool of HCV genotype 2a (HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>) prepared from acute phase plasma of a chimpanzee experimentally inoculated with plasma from a Japanese patient infected with strain HC-J6 (Okamoto et al., 1991) was used for cloning. An infectious cDNA clone of HCV strain H77, genotype 1a was also used (pCV-H77C; Yanagi et al., 1997).

###### Amplification, cloning and sequence analysis

Viral RNA was extracted from 100 µl aliquots of the HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> plasma pool with the TRIzol system (GIBCO/BRL) (Yanagi et al., 1997). Primers used in cDNA synthesis and PCR amplification were based on the genomic sequence of strain HC-J6 (Okamoto et al., 1991) and from the conserved region (3'X) of the 3' UTR of HCV genotype 2a (Tanaka et al., 1996) (Table 1). The RNA

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was denatured at 65°C for 2 min, and cDNA was synthesized at 42°C for 1 hour with Superscript II reverse transcriptase (GIBCO/BRL) and specific reverse primers in 20 µl reaction volumes. The cDNA mixtures were treated with RNase H and RNase T1 (GIBCO/BRL) at 37°C for 20 min.

TABLE 1

Oligonucleotides used for amplification and cloning of strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>, genotype 2a

Designation	Sequence (5' → 3') <sup>a</sup>
2427S-H77	ACTGGACACGGAGGTGGCCGCGTC
2426S-H77	TTGTTCTTGTCGGGTTAATGGCGC
2645R-H77	GGGTGTACTACACACATGAGTAAG
2832R-H77	AAGCGCCCTAACTGATGATG
H2751SII	<b>CGTCATCGATA</b> CTCAGCGGGCATATGCACTGGACACGGA
H2786R	GTCCAGTGCATATGCCCGCTGAGG
H2870R	CATGCACCACTGATATAGCGCTGTGAATATG
H7851S	TCCGTAGAGGAAGCTTGCAGCCTGACGCCC
H9140S (M)	CAGAGGAGGCAGGGTGCTATATGTGGCAAGTAC
H9173R (M)	GTACTTGCCACATATAGCAGCCCTGCCTCCTCTG
H9471R	<b>CGTCTCTAGAC</b> AGGAAATGGCTTAAGAGGCCGGAGTGTTTACC
J6-H2556S	TTATGGATGCTCATCTTGTGGGCCAGGCCGAAGCAGCTTTGGAGAACCTCGTAATACTCAATGC
356RF-J6H	AGGATTTGTGCTCATGGTGACGGTCTACGAG
1S-J6F <sup>b</sup>	<b>TTTTTTTTGCGGCCGC</b> TAATACGACTCACTATAGACCCGCCCTAATAGG
333S-J6	CCGTGCACCATGAGCACAAATCCTAAACCTC
753R-J6	GGATGTACCCCATGAGGTCGGCAAAG
2543S-J6F	GTTTGCGCCTGCTTATGGATGCTCATCTTG
2787R-J6 (26)	GCGTCATAAGCATATGCCTGTGTTGGG
3329R-J6	CCCTCAGCACTGGAGTACATCTG
5487-J6F	<b>CGTCATGCATA</b> CCCTAGGGCGGCTCTCATGAAGAGGG
5518R-J6F	CGTCCCTCTTCAATGAGAGCCGCTCTAGA
9251S-J6F	GCGGTGAAGACCAAGCTCAAACCTCACTC
9305R-J6F	<b>AATCTAGA</b> AGGCGCGCTTCCGGCAATGGAGTGAGTTTGAGC
9310R-J6F	<b>CGTCTCTAGAGG</b> ATAAATCCAGGAGGCGCGCTTCCGGC
9399S-J6F	TACTTTTTGTAGGGGTAGGCTTTTCC
9464-J6F	<b>CGTCTCTAGAGT</b> GTAGCTAATGTGTGCCGCTCTA
9470 (24)-J6	CTATGGAGTGTAGCTAATGTGTGC
J6-3' XR	<b>CGTCTCTAGAC</b> CATGATCTGCAGAGAGACCAGTTACGGCACTCTCTGFCAGTCATGCGGC TCACGGACCTTTCACAGCTAGCCGTGACTAGGGCTAAGATGGAGCCACC

<sup>a</sup> HCV-specific sequences are shown in plain text, non HCV-specific sequences are shown in bold face, and cleavage sites used for cDNA cloning are underlined.

<sup>b</sup> The core sequence of the T7 promotor is shown in italics.

The strategy used to amplify and clone the full-length HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> sequence is shown in Fig. 1.

Nucleotide positions correspond to those of the 2a

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infectious clone (pJ6CF) that is described herein. The 5' end of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> (nts. 17-297, excluding primer sequences) was amplified from 2 µl of cDNA synthesized with primer a-2 (Yanagi et al., 1996). PCR was performed with *AmpliTaq Gold* DNA polymerase (Perkin-Elmer) as described previously (Yanagi et al., 1996) using primers 1S-J6F and a-2. After purification, the amplified products were cloned into pGEM-T Easy vector (Promega) using standard procedures and 5 clones (pJ6-5'UTR) were sequenced.

The 3' end of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> was amplified in 3 overlapping pieces. RT-PCR of a short fragment of NS5B (nts. 9279-9439) was performed with primers 9251S-J6F and 9464R-J6F as described above. The PCR products were cloned into pGEM-T Easy vector and sequence analysis was performed from 5 pJ6-3'F clones. A second region spanning from NS5B to the conserved region of the 3' UTR (nts. 9376-9629) was amplified in RT-nested PCR (external primers H9261F and H3'X58R, internal primers H9282F and H3'X45R) (Yanagi et al., 1997). The amplified products were cloned into pGEM-9zf(-) by using *HindIII* and *XbaI* sites and 14 pJ6-3'VR clones were sequenced. The third fragment, which included the 3' terminal sequence was amplified with primers 9399S-J6F and J6-3'XR from one of the pJ6-3'VR clones, and cloned into one of the pJ6-3'F clones by using *StuI* and *XbaI* sites (pJ6-3'X).

The ORF of HCV HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> was amplified by long RT-PCR in 3 overlapping pieces. The amplification was performed on 2 µl of the cDNA mixtures with the Advantage cDNA polymerase mix (Clontech) (Yanagi et al., 1997). The J6S fragment (nts. 86-2761) was amplified



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with primers a-1 (Yanagi et al., 1996) and J6-2787R from cDNA synthesized with primer J6-3329R. A single PCR round was performed in a Robocycler thermal cycler (Stratagene), and consisted of denaturation at 99°C for 35 sec, annealing at 67°C for 30 sec and elongation at 68°C for 4 min 30 sec during the first 5 cycles, 5 min during the next 10 cycles, 5 min 30 sec during the following 10 cycles and 6 min during the last 10 cycles. The J6B fragment (nts. 2573-5488) was amplified with primers 2543S-J6F and 5518R-J6F from cDNA synthesized with primer 5518R-J6F. Finally, the J6A fragment (nts. 5515-9282) was amplified with primers 5487S-J6F and 9310R-J6F from cDNA synthesized with primer 9470R(24)-J6F. PCR amplifications of fragments J6B and J6A consisted of denaturation at 99°C for 35 sec, annealing at 67°C for 30 sec and elongation at 68°C for 6 min during the first 5 cycles, 7 min during the next 10 cycles, 8 min during the following 10 cycles and 9 min during the last 10 cycles.

After purification of the long PCR products with QIAquick PCR purification kit (QIAGEN), A-tailing reactions were performed with *AmpliTaq* DNA polymerase (Perkin Elmer) at 72 °C for 1 hour. The gel-purified A-tailed PCR products were cloned into pCR2.1 vector (Invitrogen) or pGEM-T Easy vector (Promega). DH5-alpha competent cells (GIBCO BRL) were transformed and selected on LB agar plates containing 100 µg/ml ampicillin (SIGMA) and amplified in LB liquid cultures at 30°C for 18 - 20 hrs (Yanagi et al., 1997). Midiprep was performed using Wizard *Plus* Midipreps DNA

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Purification System (Promega). Multiple clones of the J6S, J6A and the J6B fragments were sequenced.

The consensus sequence of strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> (nts. 17-9629) was determined by direct sequencing of PCR products (nts. 297-3004 and nts. 4893-5762) and by sequence analysis of the TA clones (nts. 17-5488 and nts. 5515-9629) (Fig. 1). Both strands of DNA were sequenced in all cases. Analyses of genomic sequences, including multiple sequence alignments and tree analyses, were performed with GeneWorks (Oxford Molecular Group) (Bukh et al., 1995).

Construction of chimeric cDNA clones of genotypes 1a & 2a

Four full-length intertypic chimeric cDNA clones were constructed (Figs. 4, 5A, 5B). In each clone the C, E1 and E2 genes encoded the consensus amino acid sequence of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>. The p7 protein was encoded either by the HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> or pCV-H77C consensus sequence, and the NS proteins were all encoded by pCV-H77C genes. To engineer these cDNA clones, an *NdeI* site from pCV-H77C was first eliminated by a silent substitution (C to T) at position 9158. In brief, two fragments were amplified from pCV-H77C with primers H7851S and H9173R(M) and with primers H9140S(M) and H9417R (Table 3), gel-purified and used for fusion PCR with primers H7851S and H9417R. The fusion PCR products were cloned into pCV-H77C by using *HindIII* and *AflIII* sites. A new artificial *NdeI* site was introduced by a silent substitution (C to T) at position 2765. PCR products, which were amplified from pCV-H77C with primer H2751SII containing artificial *ClaI* and *NdeI* sites and primer H2870R, were cloned into the modified pCV-H77C by using

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ClaI and Eco47III sites. The final construct (pH77CV) was used as a cassette vector to construct the intertypic chimeric HCV cDNA clones.

The four chimeric cDNA clones were constructed as follows. pH77CV-J6S (nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID No:3 and amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID No:4): The AgeI/BsmI fragment of clone J6S2 and the BsmI/NdeI fragment of clone J6S1, were cloned into pH77CV by using AgeI and NdeI sites; pH77 (p7)CV-J6S (nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID No:5 and amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID No:6): A fragment of pH77CV-J6S was replaced with a fragment amplified from pCV-H77C with primers J6-H2556S and H2786R by using BsaBI and NdeI sites; J6S (nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID No:7 and amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID No:8): A fragment amplified from pH77pCV-H77C with primers a-1 and 356RF-J6H77 and another fragment amplified from pH77CV-J6S with primers 333S-J6 and 753R-J6 were gel-purified and a fusion-PCR was performed with primers a-1 and 753R-J6. The AgeI/ClaI fragment of the subcloned fusion PCR products and the ClaI/NdeI fragment of pH77CV-J6S were cloned into pH77CV-J6S by using AgeI and NdeI sites; pH77(p7)-J6S (nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID No:9 and amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID No:10): The AgeI/ClaI fragment of J6S and the ClaI/NdeI fragment of (p7)CV-J6S were cloned into pH77(p7)CV-J6S by using AgeI and NdeI sites.

Each intertypic chimeric cDNA clone was retransformed to select a single clone, and large-scale preparation of plasmid DNA was performed with a QIAGEN plasmid Maxi kit as described previously (Yanagi et al., 1997). Each of the four cDNA clones was completely

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sequenced before inoculation. Each clone was genetically stable since the digestion pattern was as expected following retransformation and the complete sequence was the expected one.

5 Construction of full-length cDNA clone HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>

An overview of the full-length HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> clone is presented in Fig. 1. In the final construct pJ6CF, which encodes the consensus polyprotein of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>, an  
10 XbaI site was eliminated by a silent substitution (A to G) at position 5494. Digested fragments containing the consensus sequence were purified from the appropriate subclones and ligated using the sites indicated. The full-length cDNA clone (pJ6CF) was retransformed to  
15 select a single clone, and large-scale preparation of plasmid DNA followed by the complete sequence analysis was performed. Clone pJ6CF was genetically stable.

20 Intrahepatic transfection of chimpanzee with transcribed RNA

In duplicate 100 µl reactions, RNA was transcribed *in vitro* with T7 RNA polymerase (Promega) from 10 µg of template plasmid linearized with XbaI  
25 (Promega) as described previously (Yanagi et al., 1997). The integrity of the RNA was checked by electrophoresis through agarose gel stained with ethidium bromide (Yanagi et al., 1997). Each transcription mixture was diluted with 400 µl of ice-cold phosphate-buffered  
30 saline without calcium or magnesium and then immediately frozen on dry ice and stored at -80°C. Within 24 hours, both transcription mixtures were injected into the same chimpanzee by percutaneous intrahepatic injection guided  
35 by ultrasound (Yanagi et al., 1998, 1999). If the

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chimpanzee did not become infected, the same transfection was repeated once. After two negative results, the next clone was inoculated into the same chimpanzee following the same protocol. Injections were performed at weeks 0 and 2 with pH77CV-J6S, at weeks 5 and 8 with pH77(p7)CV-J6S, at weeks 14 and 16 with pH77-J6S, at weeks 19 and 23 with pH77(p7)-J6S, at week 28 with pJ6CF, and finally at week 34 with pCV-H77C. The chimpanzee was maintained under conditions that met or exceeded all requirements for its use in an approved facility.

Serum samples were collected weekly from the chimpanzee and monitored for liver enzyme levels by standard procedures, anti-HCV antibodies by the second-generation ELISA (Abbott) and HCV RNA by a sensitive RT-nested PCR assay with *AmpliTaq Gold* DNA polymerase using primers from the 5' UTR (Yanagi et al., 1996). Samples were scored as negative for HCV RNA if two independent tests on 100 µl of serum were negative. The genome equivalent (GE) titer of HCV in positive samples was determined by RT-nested PCR on 10-fold serial dilutions of the extracted RNA (Bukh et al., 1998). The consensus sequence of the complete ORF from the chimpanzee infected with RNA transcripts of pJ6CF was determined by direct sequencing of overlapping PCR products obtained by long RT-nested PCR as previously described (Yanagi et al., 1997) with HC-J6 specific primers. After the intrahepatic transfection with RNA transcripts of pCV-H77C, we performed H77(genotype 1a)-specific RT-nested PCR with primers 2427S-H77 and 2832R-H77 for the 1st round and with primers 2462S-H77 and 2645R-H77 for the 2nd round (Table 3). The

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° sensitivity of this assay was equivalent to that of the assay using 5' UTR primers when testing serum containing only H77, genotype 1a. The genome titer of genotype 1a was determined by using this specific RT- nested PCR on 10-fold serial dilutions of the extracted RNA.

#### EXAMPLE 1

##### Sequence analysis of HCV strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>

10 As minor deviations from the consensus amino acid sequence were found previously to render full-length HCV cDNA clones noninfectious (Yanagi et al., 1997, 1998), the consensus sequence of the cloning source of genotype 2a (strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>) was determined 15 prior to constructing any full-length clones. In brief, a plasma pool containing strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> was prepared from acute phase plasmapheresis units collected from a chimpanzee experimentally infected with HC-J6 (Okamoto et al., 1991). The HCV genome titer of this pool was 20  $10^{5.4}$  genome equivalents (GE)/ml (Quantiplex HCV RNA bDNA 2.0, Chiron) and the infectivity titer was  $10^4$  chimpanzee infectious doses/ml.

25 The consensus sequence of the 5' UTR of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> (nts. 17-340) was deduced from 5 clones containing nts. 17-297 and 8 clones containing nts. 86-340. The 5' UTR of the various clones was highly conserved, but the consensus sequence of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> differed by 2 nucleotides 30 from that published previously for HC-J6 (Okamoto et al., 1991: C to T at position 36 and T to C at position 222).

35 The consensus sequence of 14 clones of the 3' UTR of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> indicated that the 39 nucleotide long variable region was highly conserved in this strain and

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was identical to that previously published for HC-J6 (Okamoto et al., 1991). The polypyrimidine tract varied greatly in length (84-164 nucleotides), and contained some conserved A residues. In the conserved region, the proximal 16 nucleotides were identical to those previously published for isolates of different HCV genotypes (Kolykhalov et al., 1996; Tanaka et al., 1996; Yamada et al., 1996). The remaining 82 nucleotides of the conserved region were determined for other genotype 2a strains (Tanaka et al., 1996) but not for HC-J6 or HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>.

The ORF of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> was amplified in 3 fragments by RT-PCR (Fig. 1). Eight clones of the J6S fragment (nts. 86-2761), 6 clones of the J6B fragment (nts. 2573-5488) and 6 clones of the J6A fragment (nts. 5515-9298) were sequenced. PCR fragments containing nts. 5489-5514 were sequenced directly. A quasispecies was found at 243 nucleotide (2.7%) and 69 amino acid (2.3%) positions, scattered throughout the 9099 nts (3033 aa) of the ORF. However, the majority, 231 nucleotide substitutions, were detected only once and 71.6 % of these represented silent mutations. The 12 remaining nucleotide substitutions were each restricted to 2 clones and only 4 of these resulted in amino acid changes. The nucleotide difference among the J6S clones ranged from 0.1 - 1.3%, among the J6B clones it ranged from 0.1 - 0.3%, and it ranged from 0.2 - 4.0% among the J6A clones (Fig. 2). Three of 8 J6S clones, 4 of 6 J6B clones, and all 6 J6A clones had defective polyproteins due to nucleotide deletions, insertions or substitutions.

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The sequences of clones of strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> were relatively homogeneous. This was highlighted by the high degree of conservation among clones of the HVR1 (Fig. 3), a region frequently used to study the quasispecies of HCV (Bukh et al., 1995). An exception was the sequence of clone J6A1, which differed by about 4% from the other clones of this region (Fig. 2). Importantly, the consensus sequence of strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> (nts. 17-9629) could be determined with no ambiguity at the nucleotide or deduced amino acid level. The difference between the consensus ORF sequence of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> from the experimentally infected chimpanzee and that of HC-J6 of the inoculum (Okamoto et al., 1991) was 4.1 % and 2.2 % at the nucleotide and deduced amino acid levels, respectively (Fig. 2, Table 2). Moreover, we found that 12 (44.4%) of the 27 amino acids constituting HVR1 differed between HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> and HC-J6 (Fig. 3). Such diversities are greater than the < 2 % generally considered to comprise a quasispecies. In fact, these differences are equivalent to those found between the two prototype strains of HCV genotype 1a [strains HCV-1 (Choo et al., 1991) and H77 (Yanagi et al., 1997)]. These results indicated that HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>, which represented the major species in the experimentally infected chimpanzee, was a minor species in the original inoculum.

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TABLE 2

Percent difference of nucleotide and predicted amino acid sequences between strain HC-J6 (Okamoto *et al.*, 1991) and strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> from acute phase plasma pool of a chimpanzee inoculated with HC-J6

Genome Region	nt.position <sup>a</sup>	% nt. difference	% a.a. difference
ORF	341-9439	4.1 (373/9099) <sup>b</sup>	2.2 (66/3033) <sup>b</sup>
5' UTR	17-340	0.6 (2/324)	
Core	341-913	0.5 (3/573)	0 (0/191)
E1	914-1489	4.3 (25/576)	2.1 (4/192)
HVR1	1490-1570	24.7 (20/81)	44.4 (12/27)
E2-HVR1	1571-2590	3.9 (40/1020)	3.2 (11/340)
p7	2591-2779	3.7 (7/189)	3.2 (2/63)
NS2	2780-3430	4.0 (26/651)	2.8 (6/217)
NS3	3431-5323	4.0 (76/1893)	0.8 (5/631)
NS4A	5324-5485	4.3 (7/162)	1.9 (1/54)
NS4B	5486-6268	3.7 (29/783)	0.4 (1/261)
NS5A	6269-7666	5.4 (75/1398)	3.4 (16/466)
NS5B	7667-9439	3.7 (65/1773)	1.4 (8/591)
3' UTR	9440-9481	0 (0/42)	

a The nucleotide positions correspond to those of the infectious full-length genotype 2a clone (pJ6CF).

b The numbers in parenthesis indicate the nucleotide or amino acid differences for each region.

### Example 2

#### Chimeric molecular clones

As chimeric flaviviruses with substituted structural genes have been useful in defining the biological function of viral sequences or proteins, in analyzing immune responses and in generating attenuated vaccine candidates (Bray and Lai, 1991; Chambers *et al.*, 1999; Pletnev *et al.*, 1992, 1993, 1998). The consensus sequence of the 2a structural genes and surrounding region was substituted for that of the infectious 1a cDNA clone. In the genotype 1a backbone, two silent mutations were introduced for cloning purposes [at positions 2765 (p7) and 9158 (NS5B) of pCV-H77C] (Fig. 4). The complete sequence of each chimera was verified. Infectivity of RNA transcripts from four different

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intertypic chimeric clones (Figs. 4, 5A, 5B) was evaluated by consecutive intrahepatic transfections of a chimpanzee. Clones were considered not to be viable if viral RNA was not detected in the serum within two weeks of the repeat transfection. All chimeric clones contained the C, E1 and E2 genes of genotype 2a. The two chimeric clones tested initially differed from each other in that one had the p7 gene of 2a (pH77CV-J6S) and the other [pH77(p7)CV-J6S] the p7 gene of 1a. They differed from the two other clones in that the 186 nucleotides of the 5' UTR just upstream of the initiation codon were from the 2a genotype. Since neither clone containing the chimeric 5' UTR was infectious, the chimeric 5' UTR was replaced with the consensus genotype 1a 5' UTR to generate the two p7 varieties [pH77-J6S and pH77(p7)-J6S]. After consecutive transfection of the four clones, no HCV RNA, anti-HCV or ALT elevation was detected in the chimpanzee during 28 weeks of follow-up, suggesting that RNA transcripts from these intertypic chimeric clones were not viable *in vivo*.

This finding that the intertypic clones between genotypes 1a and 2a were not viable was surprising since flavivirus chimeras containing the structural region of dengue virus type 1 or 2 or of tick-borne encephalitis virus and the nonstructural region of an infectious dengue type 4 virus were viable (Bray and Lai, 1991; Pletnev et al., 1992, 1993). While considerable sequence variation exists between the infectious genotype 1a and 2a clones of HCV (Table 3), these viruses exhibit a higher degree of genetic heterogeneity than do the major genotypes of HCV. For other flaviviruses, however, it was possible to obtain

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infectious chimeric clones only if the capsid region was derived from the backbone cDNA clone (Chambers et al., 1999; Pletnev and Men, 1998).

TABLE 3

Percent difference of the amino acid sequences between the infectious clone of genotype 1a (pCV-H77C; Yanagi et al., 1997) and the infectious clone of genotype 2a (pJ6CF) of hepatitis C virus

Genome Region <sup>a</sup>	% difference
Polyprotein	27.9 (839/3007) <sup>b</sup>
Core	8.9 (17/191)
E1	37.0 (71/192)
HVR1	59.3 (16/27)
E2-HVR1	27.1 (91/336)
p7	38.1 (24/63)
NS2	41.9 (91/217)
NS3	19.2 (121/631)
NS4A	33.3 (18/54)
NS4B	26.8 (70/261)
NS5A	38.5 (171/444)
NS5B	25.2 (149/591)

<sup>a</sup> Genome regions defined as in Table 1.

<sup>b</sup> The numbers in parenthesis indicate the amino acid differences for each region.

Positions with deletions or insertions in E2 (4 aa positions) and NS5A (26 aa positions) were not considered.

Trivial explanations may account for the lack of viability of these intertypic chimeras. First, the two silent mutations introduced in the genotype 1a backbone (one in p7 and one in NS5B) for cloning purposes could potentially eliminate infectivity. This is, however, very unlikely since mutations at these positions exist among field isolates of HCV including strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> (Bukh et al., 1998). Also, it is noteworthy that the three previously published infectious clones of strain H77 had numerous silent nucleotide differences (Hong et al., 1999; Kolykhalov et al., 1997; Yanagi et al., 1997). Second, signal peptidases might not cleave the chimeric E2/p7 or p7/NS2

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junction. This seems unlikely, however, since  
eukaryotic signal peptidases typically recognize the  
amino acid sequences upstream of the cleavage site [the  
(-3, -1) rule] (Nielsen et al., 1997) and the amino  
acids at these two sites are conserved between genotypes  
1a and 2a (Fig. 5B). Finally, the E2/p7 and/or p7/NS2  
gene junctions could differ between genotypes 1a and 2a.  
The junctions determined for genotypes 1a and 1b were  
used (Lin et al., 1994; Mizushima et al., 1994; Selby et  
al., 1994) because those for genotype 2a have not been  
identified. In the latter two cases, further analyses  
of genotype 2a should eventually provide sufficient data  
to overcome such potential problems and it would most  
likely be possible to construct a viable chimera.

More complicated explanations for the lack of  
viability of the chimeras might be required if critical  
genotype-specific interactions occur as regards the  
structural proteins, the nonstructural proteins and the  
genomic RNA. For instance, one cannot rule out that the  
chimeras were not viable because the IRES function was  
compromised. In *in vitro* studies the IRES activity  
depended on RNA sequences not only in the 5' UTR but  
also extending 3' of the translation initiation site  
(Hahm et al., 1998; Lemon and Honda, 1997; Reynolds et  
al., 1995). Although the 3' border of the HCV IRES is  
still controversial it is believed to involve at most  
the first 39 nts of the core gene (Lemon and Honda,  
1997). The 5' UTR of the intertypic chimeras was either  
a chimera of genotype 1a and 2a sequences or the entire  
5' UTR was derived from the 1a clone (Figs. 4, 5A).  
Importantly, the 5' end of core is conserved among  
genotypes 1a and 2a (Fig. 5A). Thus, the predicted

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IRES-like secondary structure is maintained in these chimeras, suggesting that the IRES activity most likely was maintained.

Possible interactions between the structural proteins and the nonstructural proteins and/or the genomic RNA, which involve RNA packaging, replication or translation are conceivable. In poliovirus, which is another positive-sense RNA virus, functional coupling of RNA packaging to RNA replication and of RNA replication to translation have been suggested (Novak and Kirkegaard, 1994 ; Nugent et al., 1999). Similar to other viruses of the *Flaviviridae* family, a membrane-associated replicase complex is thought to initiate replication at the 3' end of HCV and to synthesize a complementary negative-strand RNA (Rice, 1996). The putative cis-acting elements at the 5' and 3' termini which are believed to be important for viral genome replication (Rice 1996; Frolov et al., 1998) should be maintained in the intertypic HCV chimeras at least in the two constructs with the authentic 1a 5'UTR. However, it is conceivable that the viral packaging system was interrupted (Frolov et al., 1998). Studies using a Kunjin flavivirus replicon system and providing the structural proteins *in trans* suggested that the essential encapsidation signals did not reside in the structural region of the genome (Khromykh et al., 1997, 1998). The location of the packaging signals of HCV is not known. However, if the structural proteins encapsidate viral RNA via genotype-specific sequences outside of the structural region, the chimeras would be unable to package the RNA and it might be extremely

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difficult to construct viable chimeras between highly divergent strains.

### Example 3

5           A consensus molecular clone of  
          genotype 2a is infectious in vivo

10           In order to prove that the genotype 2a portion  
          used in the 4 intertypic chimeric cDNA clones indeed  
          represented the infectious sequence, a consensus full-  
15           length cDNA clone of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> (pJ6CF) was constructed.  
          The core sequence of the T7 promoter, a 5' guanosine  
          residue and the full-length sequence of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> (9711  
          nts) were cloned into pGEM-9Zf vector using NotI/XbaI  
20           sites. Within the HCV sequence there were no deduced  
          amino acid differences and only 4 nucleotide differences  
          (at nucleotide positions 1822, 5494, 9247 and 9289) from  
          the consensus sequence of HC-J6<sub>CH</sub> as determined in the  
          present study. The silent mutation at position 1822 was  
25           within the structural region and so was also present in  
          the four intertypic chimeras. The 5' terminal 16 nts  
          and the 3' terminal 82 nts were deduced from previously  
          published HCV genotype 2a sequences (Okamoto et al.,  
30           1991, Tanaka et al., 1996). The full-length cDNA clone  
          of genotype 2a contained a 5' UTR of 340 nts, an ORF of  
          9099 nts encoding 3033 amino acids and a 3' UTR  
          consisting of a variable region of 39 nts followed by a  
          132 nucleotide-long polypyrimidine tract interrupted  
          with 3 A residues and the 3' terminal conserved region  
          of 98 nts.

35           RNA transcripts from pJ6CF were injected into  
          the same chimpanzee used for injection of the 4  
          intertypic chimeras. The chimpanzee became infected at

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the first attempt with an HCV titer of  $10^2$  GE/ml at week 1 post inoculation (p.i.), and  $10^3$ - $10^4$  GE/ml during weeks 2 to 6 p.i. The consensus sequence of PCR products of the complete ORF, amplified from serum obtained during week 5 p.i., was identical to the sequence of pJ6CF and there was no evidence of a quasispecies. Since RNA transcripts of this infectious genotype 2a clone were infectious *in vivo*, and it shared an exact sequence with the non-infectious intertypic chimeric clones, their failure to replicate must have been the result of incompatibilities between the genotype 1a and 2a sequences.

To confirm that the chimpanzee used was susceptible also to infection by genotype 1a, which comprised most of the intertypic chimeras, the chimpanzee was subsequently inoculated with RNA transcripts from the infectious genotype 1a clone (pCV-H77C). Serum samples were tested in an H77-specific RT-PCR assay to identify super-infection with genotype 1a. At week 1 p.i. the total HCV genome titer was  $10^4$  GE/ml and the H77-specific (1a) genome titer was  $10^2$  GE/ml. The H77-specific genome titer increased to  $10^3$  GE/ml at week 2 p.i., and reached  $10^4$  GE/ml during weeks 3-6 p.i. The consensus sequence of PCR products amplified with H77-specific primers at weeks 1-6 p.i. were found to be identical to that of pCV-H77C. However, the direct sequences of PCR products amplified with the 5' UTR primers at weeks 1-2 after inoculation of pCV-H77C were identical to that of pJ6CF indicating that the 2a genotype was still present and represented the majority species. These experiments confirmed that the inability of the intertypic 1a, 2a

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° cDNA clones to infect the chimpanzee was not the result of protective immune responses in the chimpanzee but represented deficiencies intrinsic to the chimeras.

### Discussion

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The published infectious cDNA clones of HCV represent the two most important subtypes of genotype 1 (Hong et al., 1999; Kolykhalov et al., 1997; Yanagi et al., 1997, 1998). However, 5 more major genotypes of HCV are recognized. In the above Examples, the infectivity of a cDNA clone of a second major HCV genotype was demonstrated. As in previous studies, the infectivity of RNA transcripts was demonstrated *in vivo* by intrahepatic transfection of a chimpanzee. This new infectious clone (pJ6CF) encodes the consensus polyprotein of HCV strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>, genotype 2a. Its encoded polyprotein differs from those of the infectious clones of genotypes 1a and 1b by approximately 30% (Table 2). Genotype 2 strains, in particular subtypes 2a and 2b, have a worldwide distribution and important differences between genotypes 1 and 2 with respect to pathogenesis and treatment were indicated in previous studies. The availability of an infectious clone representing a second major genotype of HCV should permit new ways of studying the molecular biology and immunopathology of this important and genetically quite different human pathogen.

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The 5' and 3' UTRs of HCV are believed to be critical for viral replication, translation and viral packaging (Rice, 1996). The 5' 203 terminal nucleotides and the 3' 101 terminal nucleotides of the published infectious clones of genotypes 1a and 1b were identical.

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However, the sequences of UTRs of the genotype 2a clone differ from those of the genotype 1 clones. Overall, the 5' UTR of the genotype 2a clone has 17 nt differences and a single nucleotide deletion compared with the infectious clones of genotype 1a (Fig. 5A). Five of these differences and the deletion are within the first 30 nucleotides, whereas the remainder are found within the predicted IRES structure. Differences also exist between the 3' UTR of the genotype 2a clone and the clones of genotype 1a (Fig. 5B). The sequences of the variable region are very different. Recent study has shown this region is not critical for infectivity *in vivo* (Yanagi et al., 1999). Within the regions which are critical for infectivity *in vivo* (Yanagi et al., 1999), the 132 nucleotide-long polypyrimidine tract of the genotype 2a clone has 3 unique A residues interspersed and the 3' terminal conserved region of 98 nts has 4 nt differences within the 3' terminal stable stem-loop structure (Fig. 5B) (Kolykhalov et al., 1996; Tanaka et al., 1996). Since the 2a clone was infectious these sequence differences are apparently real and are compatible with infectivity. Further studies are required to determine whether these represent critical genotype-specific sequences.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A purified and isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes human hepatitis C virus of genotype 2a, said molecule capable of expressing said virus when transfected into cells.
2. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said molecule encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein said molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
4. A DNA construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.
5. A DNA construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3.
6. An RNA transcript of the DNA construct of claim 4.
7. An RNA transcript of the DNA construct of claim 5.
8. A cell transfected with the DNA construct of claim 4.
9. A cell transfected with the DNA construct of claim 5.
10. A cell transfected with RNA transcript of claim 6.



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11. A cell transfected with RNA transcript of claim 7.
12. A hepatitis C virus polypeptide produced by the cell of claims 8 or 9.
13. A hepatitis C virus polypeptide produced by the cell of claims 10 or 11.
14. A hepatitis C virus produced by the cell of claims 8 or 9.
15. A hepatitis C virus produced by the cell of claims 10 or 11.
16. A hepatitis C virus whose genome comprises a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.
17. A hepatitis C virus whose genome comprises a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3.
18. A method for producing a hepatitis C virus comprising transfecting a host cell with the RNA transcript of claims 6 or 7.
19. A polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence according to claim 1.
20. A polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence according to claim 3.
21. The polypeptide of claim 19, wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of NS3 protease, E1 protein, E2 protein or NS4 protein.

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22. The polypeptide of claim 20, wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of NS3 protease, E1 protein, E2 protein or NS4 protein.

23. A method for assaying candidate antiviral agents for activity against HCV, comprising:

- a) exposing a cell containing the hepatitis C virus of claims 16 or 17 to the candidate antiviral agent; and
- b) measuring the presence or absence of hepatitis C virus replication in the cell of step (a).

24. The method of claim 23, wherein said replication in step (b) is measured by at least one of the following: negative strand RT-PCR, quantitative RT-PCR, Western blot, immunofluoresence, or infectivity in a susceptible animal.

25. A method for assaying candidate antiviral agents for activity against HCV, comprising:

- a) exposing an HCV protease encoded by a nucleic acid sequence according to claims 1 or 3 or a fragment thereof to the candidate antiviral agent in the presence of a protease substrate; and
- b) measuring the protease activity of said protease.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein said HCV protease is selected from the group consisting of an NS3 domain protease, an NS3-NS4A fusion polypeptide, or an NS2-NS3 protease.

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27. An antiviral agent identified as having antiviral activity for HCV by the method of claim 23.

28. An antiviral agent identified as having antiviral activity for HCV by the method of claim 25.

29. Antibody to the polypeptide of claim 19.

30. Antibody to the polypeptide of claim 20.

31. Antibody to the hepatitis C virus of claim 16.

32. Antibody to the hepatitis C virus of claim 17.

33. A method for determining the susceptibility of cells in vitro to support HCV infection, comprising the steps of:

- a) growing animal cells in vitro;
- b) transfecting into said cells the nucleic acid of claim 1; and
- c) determining if said cells show indicia of HCV replication.

34. The method according to claim 33, wherein said cells are human cells.

35. A composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 19 suspended in a suitable amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

36. A composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 20 suspended in a suitable amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

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37. A composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 suspended in a suitable amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

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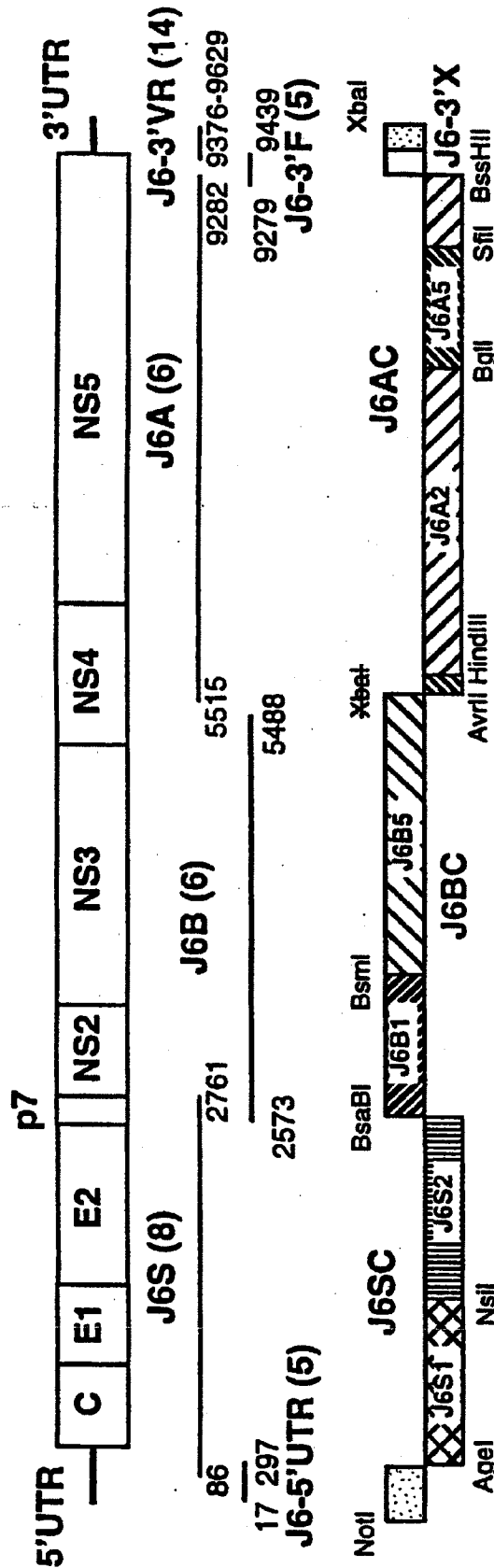
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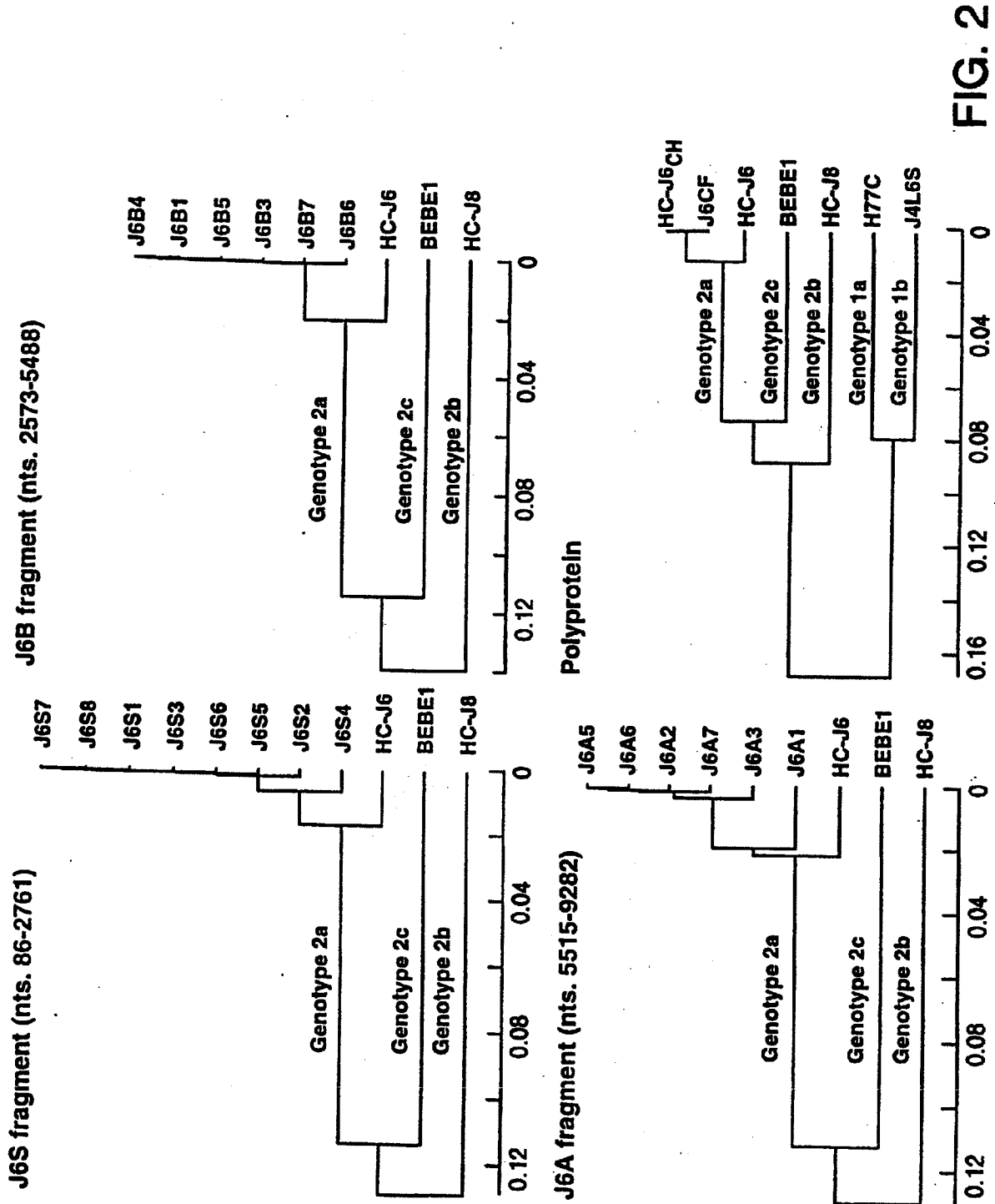


FIG. 2

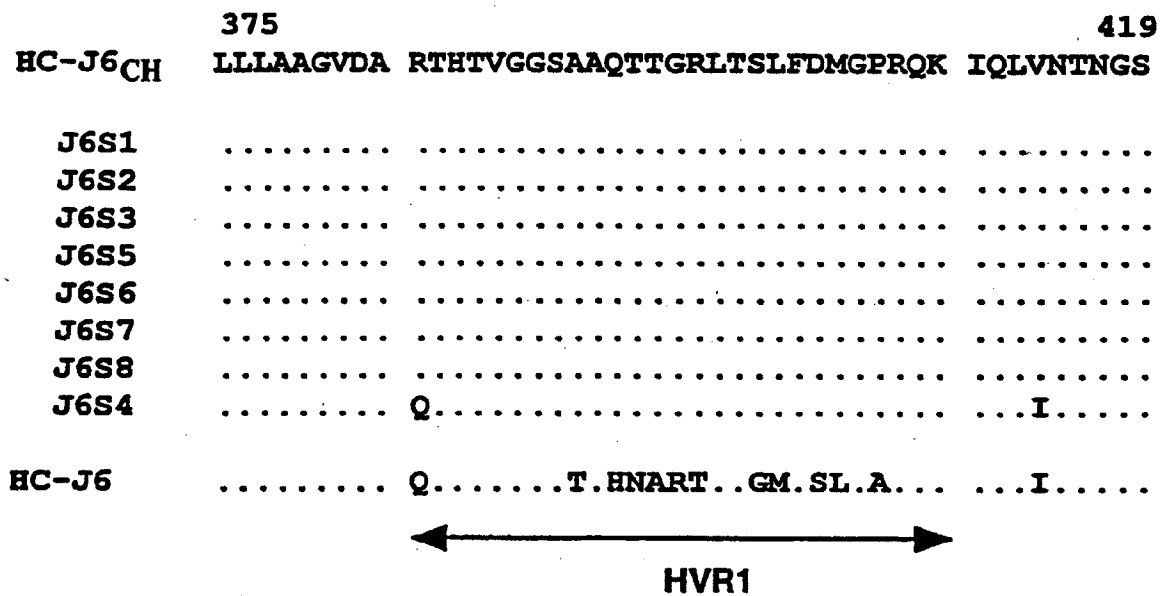


FIG. 3

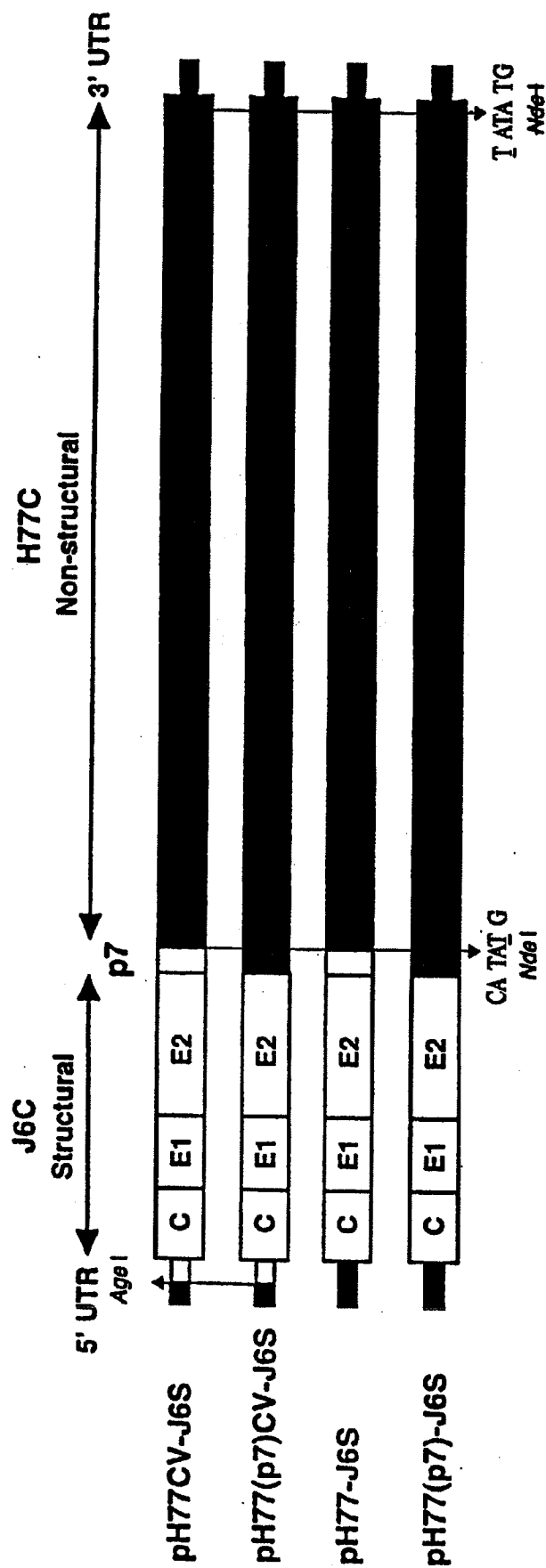


FIG. 4



**FIG. 5A**

**SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)**

## FIG. 5B

## 3' Untranslated Region

	9375				9518
H77C	TGAAGGTTGG	CGTAACACT	CCGGCCTCTT	AAGCCATTTC	CTG (Polypyrimidine tract) 81
H77CV-J6S	.....	.....	.....	.....	AATGGTGGCT CCATCTTAGC
H77(p7)CV-J6S	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
H77-J6S	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
H77(p7)-J6S	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
J6CF	.AG..CGGCA	CAC.TTAG..	A.ACT.CA.A	GCTAAC.G..	C- (Polypyrimidine tract) 81
					132 ---
	9519				9599
H77C	CCTAGTCACG	GCTAGCTGTG	AAAGGTCCGT	GAGCCGCATG	ACTGCAGAGA GTGCTGATAC TGGCCTCTCT GCAGATCATG T
H77CV-J6S	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
H77(p7)CV-J6S	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
H77-J6S	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
H77(p7)-J6S	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
J6CF	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

## E2/p7/NS2 Region

		E2/p7		p7		p7/NS2
	730					
H77C	RVCSCLMWMLLI	SOAEA	ALENLVILN	AAASLAGTHGLV	SFLVFFCF	AWYLKGRWVPGAVYALYGMWPLLLILLALPQRAYA LDTEVAASCGGVVLVG
H77CV-J6S	...A...LI.LG...	...	K...	H...A.SCN.FLY.VI..	VA...I...V..	L.T.S.T.L.SFS.....Q...
H77(p7)CV-J6S	...A...LI.LG...	...	K...	H...A.SCN.FLY.VI..	VA...I...V..	L.T.S.T.L.SFS.....Q...
H77-J6S	...A...LI.LG...	...	K...	H...A.SCN.FLY.VI..	VA...I...V..	L.T.S.T.L.SFS.....Q...
H77(p7)-J6S	...A...LI.LG...	...	K...	H...A.SCN.FLY.VI..	VA...I...V..	L.T.S.T.L.SFS.....Q...
J6CF	...A...LI.LG...	...	K...	H...A.SCN.FLY.VI..	VA...I...V..	L.T.S.T.L.SFS.....Q...
						Y.AS.HGQI.AAL..M

## H77C

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
GCCAGCCCC	TGATGGGGC	GACACTCCAC	CATGAATCAC	TCCCTGTGA	50
GGAACTACTG	TCTTACGCA	GAAAGGGTCT	AGCCATGGCG	TTAGTATGAG	100
TGTCGTGCAG	CCTCCAGGAC	CCCCCTCC	GGGAGAGCCA	TAGTGGTCTG	150
CGGAACCGGT	GAGTACACCG	GAATTGCCAG	GACGACGGG	TCCTTTCTTG	200
GATAAACCCG	CTCAATGCT	GGAGATTGCG	GCGTCCCC	GCAAGACTGC	250
TAGCCGAGTA	GTGTGGGTC	GCGAAAGGCT	TTGTGGTACT	GCTGTATAGG	300
GTGCTTGGGA	GTGCCCCGG	AGGTCTGTA	GACGTGCAC	CATGAGCACG	350
AATCCTAAAC	CTCAAAGAAA	AAOCAAAGT	AACAACAACC	GTGCCCCACA	400
GGACGTCAAG	TTCCCCGGTG	GCGGTACAGT	CGTTGGTGA	GTTTACTTGT	450
TGCCCGCAG	GGCCCCAGA	TTGGGTGTGC	GCGGACGAG	GAAGACTTCC	500
GAGCGGTCC	AACCTCGAG	TAGAAGTCAG	CCTATCCCCA	AGGCAAGTGG	550
GGCCGAGGG	AGGACCTGG	CTCAGCCCCG	GTACCTTTGG	CCCCCTATG	600
GCAATGAGGG	TTGCCGGTGG	GCGGGATGGC	TCCGTGCTCC	CCGTGGCTCT	650
CGCCCTAGCT	GGGGCCCCAC	AGACCCCCCG	CGTAGGTCC	GCAATTTGGG	700
TAAGGTCATC	GATACCTTA	CGTCCGGCTT	CGCCGACCTC	ATGGGGTACA	750
TACCGCTGGT	CGGGCCCCCT	CTTGGAGGGG	CTGCCAGGGC	CCTGGCGCAT	800
GGCGTCCGG	TTCTGGAAGA	CGGCGTGAAC	TATGCAACAG	GGAACTTCC	850
TGGTTGCTCT	TTCTCTATCT	TCTTCTGGC	CCTGCTCTCT	TGCTGACTG	900
TGCCCCGCTTC	AGCCTACCAA	GTGCGCAATT	CCTCGGGGCT	TTACCATGTC	950
ACCAATGATT	GCCCTAATC	GAGTATTGTG	TACGAGGGCG	CCGATGCCAT	1000
CCTGCACACT	CCGGGGTGTG	TCCCTTGGGT	TGCGGAGGGT	AACGCTCGA	1050
GGTGTGTGGT	GGCGGTGACC	CCACGGTGG	CCACCAGGGA	CGGCAAACTC	1100
CCCACAACGC	AGCTTCGAG	TCATATCGAT	CTGCTTGTGG	GGAGCGCCAC	1150
CCTCTGCTCG	GCCCCCTACG	TGGGGGACCT	GTGCGGGTCT	GTCCTTCTTG	1200
TTGGTCAACT	GTTTACCTTC	TCTCCAGGC	GCCACTGGAC	GACGCAAGAC	1250
TGCAATTGTT	CTATCTATCC	CGGCCATATA	ACGGGTATC	GCAATGGCATG	1300
GGATATGATG	ATGAACGGT	CCCCACGGC	AGGTTGGTGG	GTAGCTCAGC	1350
TGCTCCGGAT	CCCACAAGCC	ATCATGGACA	TGATCGCTGG	TGCTCACTGG	1400
GGAGTCTGG	CGGGCATAGC	GTATTTCTCC	ATGGTGGGGA	ACTGGGGGAA	1450
GGTCTGTGTA	GTGCTGCTGC	TATTTGCGCG	CGTGCAGCGG	GAAACCCACG	1500
TCACCGGGG	AAATGCCGGC	CGCACCAAGG	CTGGGCTTGT	TGGTCTCCTT	1550
ACACCAGGGG	CCAAGCAGAA	CATCCAAGTG	ATCAACACCA	ACGGCAGTTG	1600
GCACATCAAT	AGCACGGCCT	TGAATTGCAA	TGAAAGCCTT	AACACCGGCT	1650
GGTTAGCAGG	GCTCTCTAT	CAACACAAAT	TCAACTCTTC	AGGCTGTGCT	1700
GAGAGGTGG	CCAGCTGCGG	ACGCTTACCC	GATTTTGGCC	AGGGCTGGGG	1750
TCTTATCAGT	TATGCCAAGC	GAAGCGGCT	CGACGAAGGC	CCCTACTGCT	1800
GGCACTACCC	TCCAAGACCT	TGTGGCATTG	TGCCCCGAAA	GAGCGTGTGT	1850
GGCCCGGTAT	ATTGCTTCAC	TCCCAGCCCC	GTGGTGGTGG	GAAACGACCA	1900

FIG. 6A

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## H77C

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
CAGGTCGGGC	GCGCCTACCT	ACAGCTGGGG	TGCAAATGAT	ACGGATGTCT	1950
TGCTCCTTAA	CAACACCAGG	CCACCGCTGG	GCAATTGGTT	CGGTGTGTACC	2000
TGGATGAACT	CAACTGGATT	CACCAAAGTG	TGCGGAGGCG	CCCCTTGTGT	2050
CATCGGAGGG	GTGGGCAACA	ACAACCTTGT	CTGCCCCACT	GATTGCTTCC	2100
GCAAACATCC	GGAAGCCACA	TACTCTCGGT	GCGGCTCCGG	TCCCTGGATT	2150
ACACCCAGGT	GCATGGTCTA	CTACCCGTAT	AGGCTTTGGC	ACTATCCTTG	2200
TACCATCAAT	TACACCATAT	TCAAAGTCAG	GATGTACGTG	GGAGGGGTCT	2250
AGCACAGGCT	GGAAGCGGOC	TGCAACTGGA	CGCGGGGCGA	ACGCTGTGAT	2300
CTGGAAGACA	GGGACAGGTC	CGAGCTCAGC	CGGTGTCTGC	TGTCCACAC	2350
ACAGTGGCAG	GTCTTCTCGT	GTCTTTTCAC	GACCTTGCCA	GCTTGTCTCA	2400
CCGGCCTCAT	CCACCTCCAC	CAGAACATTT	TGGACGTGCA	GTACTTGTAC	2450
GGGGTAGGGT	CAAGCATGCG	GTCTTGGGCC	ATTAAAGTGG	AGTACGTCTG	2500
TCTCCTGTTC	CTTCTGCTTG	CAGACGCGCG	CGTCTGCTCC	TGCTTGTGGA	2550
TGATGTTACT	CATATCCCAA	GCGGAGGCGG	CTTTGGAGAA	CCTCGTAATA	2600
CTCAATGCAG	CATCCCTGGC	CGGGACGCAC	GGTCTTGTGT	CCTTCTCTGT	2650
GTCTCTCTGC	TTTGCGTGGT	ATCTGAAGGG	TAGGTGGGTG	CCCGAGCGCG	2700
TCTACGCCCT	CTACGGGATG	TGGCCTCTCC	TCTGTCTCCT	GCTGGCGTTG	2750
CCTCAGCGGG	CATACGCACT	GGACACGGAG	GTGCGCGCGT	CGTGTGCGCG	2800
CGTTGTCTCT	GTGGGGTTAA	TGGCGCTGAC	TCTGTGCGCA	TATTACAAGC	2850
GCTATATCAG	CTGGTGCATG	TGGTGGCTTC	AGTATTTTCT	GACCAGAGTA	2900
GAAGCGCAAC	TGCACGTGTG	GGTTCCCCCC	CTCAACGTCC	GGGGGGGGCG	2950
CGATGCGGTC	ATCTTACTCA	TGTGTGTAGT	ACACCCGACC	CTGGTATTTG	3000
ACATCACCAA	ACTACTCCTG	GCCATCTTCC	GACCCCTTTG	GATTCTTCAA	3050
GCCAGTTTGC	TAAAGTCCC	CTACTTGTGT	CGGTTTCAAG	GCTTCTCTCC	3100
GATCTGCGCG	CTAGCGCGGA	AGATAGCGGG	AGGTCAATTAC	GTGCAATGG	3150
CCATCATCAA	GTTAGGGGGG	CTTACTGGCA	CCTATGTGTA	TACCATCTC	3200
ACCCCTCTTC	GAGACTGGGC	GCACAACGGC	CTGGGAGATC	TGGCGGTGGC	3250
TGTGGAACCA	GTGTCTTCT	CCCGAATGGA	GACCAAGCTC	ATCACGTGGG	3300
GGGCAGATAC	CGCCGCGTGC	GGTGACATCA	TCAAACGCTT	GCCCGTCTCT	3350
GCCCGTAGGG	GCCAGGAGAT	ACTGCTTGGG	CCAGCCGACG	GAATGGTCTC	3400
CAAGGGGTGG	AGGTGTCTGG	CGCCCATCAC	GGCGTACGOC	CAGCAGACGA	3450
GAGGCTCCT	AGGGTGTATA	ATCACCAGCC	TGACTGGCGG	GGACAAAAAC	3500
CAAGTGGAGG	GTGAGGTCCA	GATCGTGTCA	ACTGCTTACC	AAACCTTCT	3550
GGCAACGTGC	ATCAATGGGG	TATGCTGGAC	TGTCTTACCAC	GGGGCCGGAA	3600
CGAGGACCAT	CGCATCACCC	AAGGGTCTCT	TCATCCAGAT	GTATACCAAT	3650
GTGGACCAAG	ACCTTGTGGG	CTGGCCCGCT	CCTCAAGGTT	CCCGCTCATT	3700
GACACCCTGT	ACCTGCGGCT	CCTCGGACCT	TTACCTGGTC	ACGAGGCACG	3750
CCGATGTCAT	TCCCGTGGCG	CGCGGAGGTG	ATAGCAGGGG	TAGCCTGCTT	3800

FIG. 6B

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## H77C

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
TGCCCCCGGC	CCATTTCCTA	CTTGAAAGGC	TCCTCGGGGG	GTCCGCTGTT	3850
GTGCCCCCGG	GGACAGGCGG	TGGGCTTATT	CAGGGGCGCG	GTGTGCACCC	3900
GTGGAGTGSC	TAAAGCGGTG	GACTTTATCC	CTGTGGAGAA	CCTAGGGACA	3950
ACCATGAGAT	CCCCGGTGT	CAOGGACAAC	TCCTCTCCAC	CAGCAGTGCC	4000
CCAGAGCTTC	CAGGTGGGCC	ACCIGCATGC	TCCCACCGGC	AGCGGTAAAG	4050
GCAACAAGGT	CCGGGCTGGG	TAOGCAGGCC	AGGGCTACAA	GGTGTGGTG	4100
CTCAACCCCT	CTGTGTGCTG	AAGCTGGGG	TTTGGTGCTT	ACATGTCCAA	4150
GGCCCATGGG	GTGTATCCTA	ATATCAGGAC	CGGGGTGAGA	ACAATTACCA	4200
CTGGCAGGCC	CATCAGGTAC	TCCACCTAAG	GCAAGTTCCT	TGCGGACGGC	4250
GGGTGCTCAG	GAGGTGCTTA	TGACATAATA	ATTGTGTAGG	AGTGCCACTC	4300
CACGGATGCC	ACATCCATCT	TGGGCATGGG	CCTGTGCTTT	GACCAAGCAG	4350
AGACTGGGGG	GGCGAGACTG	GTGTGTCTCG	CCACTGCTAC	CCCTCCGGGC	4400
TCCGTCACTG	TGTCCCATCC	TAACATCGAG	GAGGTGTGCT	TGTCCACCAC	4450
CGGAGAGATC	CCCTTTTACG	GCAAGGCTAT	CCCCCTCGAG	GIGATCAAGG	4500
GGGAAGACA	TCTCATCTTC	TGCCACTCAA	AGAAGAAGTG	CGACGAGCTC	4550
GCCGGAAGC	TGGTGGCATT	GGGCATCAAT	GCCGTGGGCT	ACTACCGCGG	4600
TCTTGACGTG	TCTGTATCC	CGACCAGCGG	CGATGTGTGC	GTCGTGTCCA	4650
CCGATGCTCT	CATGACTGGC	TTTACCGGGG	ACTTCGACTC	TGTGATAGAC	4700
TGCAACACGT	GTGTCACTCA	GACAGTGGAT	TTTACGCTTG	ACCTTACCTT	4750
TACCATTGAG	ACAACCACGC	TCCCCCAGGA	TGCTGTCTCC	AGGACTCAAC	4800
GCCGGGGCAG	GACTGGCAGG	GGGAAGCCAG	GCATCTATAG	ATTTGTGGCA	4850
CCGGGGGAGC	GCCCCCTCGG	CATGTTTCGAC	TGTTCCGTCC	TCTGTGAGTG	4900
CTATGACCGG	GGCTGTGCTT	GGTATGAGCT	CAGGCCCCGC	GAGACTACAG	4950
TTAGGCTACG	AGCGTACATG	AACACCCCGG	GGCTTCCCGT	GTGCCAGGAC	5000
CATCTTGAAT	TTTGGGAGGG	CGTCTTTACG	GGCTTCACTC	ATATAGATGC	5050
CCACTTTTTA	TCCCAGACAA	AGCAGAGTGG	GGAGAACTTT	OCTTACCTGG	5100
TAGCGTACCA	AGCCACCGTG	TGCGCTAGGG	CTCAAGGCCC	TCCCCCATCG	5150
TGGGACCAGA	TGTGGAAGTG	TTTGATCCGC	CTTAAACCCA	CCCTCCATGG	5200
GCCAACACCC	CTGCTATACA	GACTGGGGGC	TGTTTCAGAAT	GAAGTCACCC	5250
TGACGCACCC	AATCACCAAA	TACATCATGA	CATGCATGTC	GGCGGACCTG	5300
GAGGTGCTCA	CGAGCACCTG	GGTGCTCGTT	GGGGGGGTCC	TGGCTGCTCT	5350
GGCCGGGTAT	TGCTGTGCAA	CAGGCTGGGT	GGTCATAGTG	GGCAGGATCG	5400
TCTGTGTCCG	GAAGCCGGCA	ATTATACCTG	ACAGGGAGGT	TCTCTACCCG	5450
GAGTTCGATG	AGATGGAAGA	GTGCTCTCAG	CACTTACCGT	ACATCGAGCA	5500
AGGGATGATG	CTCGCTGAGC	AGTTCAAGCA	GAAGGCCCTC	GGCTTCTCTG	5550
AGACCGGTTC	CCGCCATGCA	GAGGTATATCA	CCCTGTCTGT	CCAGACCAAC	5600
TGGCAGAAAC	TCCAGGTCTT	TTGGGCGAAG	CACATGTGGA	ATTTCATCAG	5650
TGGGATACAA	TACTTGGCGG	GCTGTGCAAC	GCTGCTGGGT	AACCCCGCCA	5700

FIG. 6C

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## H77C

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
TTGCTTCATT	GATGGCTTTT	ACAGCTGCGG	TCACCAGCCC	ACTAACCCT	5750
GGCCAAACCC	TCTCTTCAA	CATATTGGGG	GGGTGGGTGG	CTGCCCAGCT	5800
CGCCGCCCCC	GGTGGCGCTA	CTGCCTTTGT	GGGTGCTGGC	CTAGCTGGCG	5850
CGCCCATCGG	CAGCGTTGGA	CTGGGGAAGG	TCCTGTGGGA	CATTCTTGCA	5900
GGGTATGGCG	CGGGCGTGGC	GGGAGCTCCT	GTAGCATTCA	AGATCATGAG	5950
CGGTGAGGTC	CCCTCCACGG	AGGACCTGGT	CAATCTGCTG	CCGGCCATCC	6000
TCTCGGCTGG	AGCCCTTGTA	GTCGGTGTGG	TCTGGCGAGC	AATACTGGCG	6050
CGGCAAGTTG	GCCCGGGCGA	GGGGGCAGTG	CAATGGATGA	ACGGGCTAAT	6100
AGCCTTCGCC	TCCCGGGGGA	ACCATGTTTC	CCCCAGGCAC	TACGTGCGCG	6150
AGAGCGATGC	AGCCGCCCCG	GTCAGTGCCA	TACTCAGCAG	CCTCAGTGTA	6200
ACCCAGCTCC	TGAGGCGACT	GCATCAGTGG	ATAAGCTCGG	AGTGTAACCAC	6250
TCCATGCTCC	GGTTCCITGG	TAAGGGACAT	CTGGGACTGG	ATATGCGAGG	6300
TGCTGAGCGA	CTTTAAGACC	TGGCTGAAAG	CCAAGCTCAT	GCCACAACIG	6350
CCTGGGATTC	CCTTTGTGTC	CTGCCAGCGC	GGGTATAGGG	GGGTCTGGCG	6400
AGGAGACGGC	ATTATGCACA	CTCGCTGCCA	CTGTGGAGCT	GAGATCACIG	6900
GACATGTCAA	AAACGGGACG	ATGAGGATCG	TGGTTCCTAG	GACCTGCAGG	6950
AACATGTGGA	GTGGGACGTT	CCCCATTAAAC	GCCTACACCA	CGGGCCCCCTG	6550
TACTCCCCCTT	CCTGCGCCGA	ACTATAAGTT	CGCGCTGTGG	AGGGTGTCTG	6600
CAGAGGAATA	CGTGGAGATA	AGCGGGGTGG	GGGACTTCCA	CTACGTATCG	6650
GGTATGACTA	CTGACAATCT	TAAATGCCCG	TGCCAGATCC	CATCGCCCCGA	6700
ATTTTTCACA	GAATTGGACG	GGGTGCGCCT	ACACAGGTTT	GCGCCCCCTT	6750
GCAAGCCCCCT	GCTGCGGGAG	GAGGTATCAT	TCAGAGTAGG	ACTCCACGAG	6800
TACCCGGTGG	GGTCGCAATT	ACCTTGGCGAG	CCCGAACCGG	ACGTAGCCGT	6850
GTTGACGTC	ATGCTCACTG	ATCCCTCCCA	TATAACAGCA	GAGGCGGCGG	6900
GGAGAAGGTT	GCGGAGAGGG	TCACCCCTTT	CTATGGCCAG	CTCCTGGGCT	6950
AGCCAGCTGT	CCGCTCCATC	TCTCAAGGCA	ACTTGCACCG	CCAACCATGA	7000
CTCCCCTGAC	GCCGAGCTCA	TAGAGGCTAA	CCTCCTGTGG	AGGCAGGAGA	7050
TGGGCGGCAA	CATCACCAGG	GTTGAGTCAG	AGAACAAAGT	GGTGATTCTG	7100
GACTCCTTCG	ATCCGCTTGT	GGCAGAGGAG	GATGAGGGGG	AGGTCTCCGT	7150
ACCTGCAGAA	ATTCTGCGGA	AGTCTCGGAG	ATTGGCCCCG	GCCCTGCCCCG	7200
TCTGGGCGCG	GCCGGACTAC	AACCCCCGCG	TAGTAGAGAC	GTTGAAAAAG	7250
CCTGACTACG	AACCACCTGT	GGTCCATGGC	TGCCCGCTAC	CACCTCCACG	7300
GTCCTCTCCT	GTGCTCCGCG	CTCGGAAAAA	GCGTACGGTG	GTCCTCACCG	7350
AATCAACCCCT	ATCTACTGCC	TTGGCCGAGC	TTGCCACCAA	AAGTTTITGGC	7400
AGCTCCTCAA	CTTCGGGCAT	TACGGGCGAC	AATAAGACAA	CATCCTCTGA	7450
GCCCCCCCCCT	CTTGGCTGCC	CCCCCGACTC	CGACGTTGAG	TCTTATTCCT	7500
CCATGCCCCC	CCTGGAGGGG	GAGCCTGGGG	ATCCGGATCT	CAGCGACGGG	7550
TCATGGTCCA	CGGTACAGTAG	TGGGGCCGAC	ACGGAAGATG	TGCTGTGCTG	7600

FIG. 6D

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## H77C

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
CTCAATGTCT	TATTCCCTGGA	CAGGCGCACT	CGTCACCCCG	TGCGCTGGCG	7650
AAGAACAAAA	ACTGCCCATC	AACGCACCTGA	GCAACTCGTT	GCTAAGCCAT	7700
CACAATCTGG	TGTATTCCAC	CACCTTACGC	AGTGCTTGCC	AAAGGCAGAA	7750
GAAAGTCACA	TTTGACAGAC	TGCAAGTTCT	GGACAGCCAT	TACCAGGACG	7800
TGCTCAAGGA	GGTCAAAGCA	GCGGCGTCAA	AAGTGAAGGC	TAACTTGCTA	7850
TCGGTAGAGG	AAGCTTGCAG	CCTGAGGCCC	CCACATTTCAG	CCAAATCCAA	7900
GTTTGGCTAT	GGGGCAAAG	ACGTCCGTTG	CCATCCCGA	AAGGCCGTAG	7950
CCCACATCAA	CTCCGTGTGG	AAAGACCTTC	TGGAAGACAG	TGTAACACCA	8000
ATAGACACTA	CCATCATGGC	CAAGAAGCAG	GTTTTCTGGG	TTCAGCCCTGA	8050
GAAGGGGGGT	CGTAAGCCAG	CTCGTCTCAT	CGTGTTCCCC	GACCTGGGCG	8100
TGCGCGTGTG	CGAGAAGATG	GCCCTGTACG	ACGTGGTTAG	CAAGCTCCCC	8150
CTGGCCGTGA	TGGGAAGCTC	CTACGGATTG	CAATACTCAC	CAGGACAGCG	8200
GGTGAATTTC	CTCGTGCAAG	CGTGAAGTTC	CAAGAAGACC	CCGATGGGGT	8250
TCTCGTATGA	TACCCGCTGT	TTTGACTCCA	CAGTCACTGA	GAGCGACATC	8300
CGTACGGAGG	AGGCAATTTA	CCAATGTTGT	GACCTGGACC	CCCAAGCCCC	8350
CGTGGCCATC	AAGTCCCTCA	CTGAGAGGCT	TTATGTTGGG	GGCCCTCTTA	8400
CCAATTCAAG	GGGGGAAAAC	TGCGGCTACC	GCAGGTGCCG	CGCGAGCGGC	8450
GTACTGACAA	CTAGCTGTGG	TAACACCTTC	ACTTGCTACA	TCAAGGCCCG	8500
GGCAGCCTGT	CGAGCCGCAG	GGCTCCAGGA	CTGCACCATG	CTCGTGTGTG	8550
GCGACGACTT	AGTCGTTATC	TGTGAAAGTG	CGGGGGTCCA	GGAGGACGGG	8600
GCGAGCCTGA	GAGCCTTCAC	GGAGGCTATG	ACCAGGTACT	CCGCCCCCCC	8650
CGGGGACCCC	CCACAACCAG	AATACGACTT	GGAGCTTATA	ACATCATGCT	8700
CCTCCAACGT	GTCAGTCGCC	CACGACGGCG	CTGGAAAGAG	GGTCTACTAC	8750
CTTACCCGTG	ACCCCTACAAC	CCCCCTCGCG	AGAGCCGCGT	GGGAGACAGC	8800
AAGACACACT	CCAGTCAATT	CCTGGCTAGG	CAACATAATC	ATGTTTGCCC	8850
CCACACTGTG	GGCGAGGATG	ATACTGATGA	CCATTTCTTT	TAGGGTCTTC	8900
ATAGCCAGGG	ATCAGCTTGA	ACAGGCTCTT	AACTGTGAGA	TCTAAGGAGC	8950
CTGCTACTCC	ATAGAACCAC	TGGATCTACC	TCCAATCATT	CAAAGACTCC	9000
ATGGCCTCAG	CGCATTTTCA	CTCCACAGTT	ACTCTCCAGG	TGAAATCAAT	9050
AGGGTGGCCG	CATGCCCTCAG	AAAACCTGGG	GTCGCGCCCT	TGCGAGCTTG	9100
GAGACACCGG	GCCCGGAGCG	TCCGCGCTAG	GCTTCTGTCC	AGAGGAGGCA	9150
GGGCTGCCAT	ATGTGGCAAG	TACCTCTTCA	ACTGGGCAGT	AAGAACAAAG	9200
CTCAAACCTCA	CTCCAATAGC	GGCCGCTGGC	CGGCTGGACT	TGTCCGGTTG	9250
GTTACGGCT	GGCTACAGCG	GGGAGACAT	TTATCACAGC	GTTCTCATG	9300
CCCGCCCCCG	CTGGTCTTGG	TTTTTGCCCTAC	TCTGCTCGC	TGCAGGGGTA	9350
GGCATCTACC	TCTTCCCCAA	CCGATGAAGG	TTGGGGTAAA	CACCTCCGGCC	9400
TCTTAAGCCA	TTTCTGTGTT	TTTTTTTTTT	TTTTTTTTTT	TTTTTCTTTT	9450
TTTTTTTCTT	TCCTTTCCTT	CTTTTTTTTC	TTTCTTTTTC	CCTTCTTTAA	9500

FIG. 6E

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

**H77C**

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
TGGTGGCTCC	ATCTTAGCCC	TAGTCACGGC	TAGCTGTGAA	AGGTCCGTGA	9550
GCCGCATGAC	TGCAGAGAGT	GCTGATACTG	GCCCTCTCTG	AGATCATGT	9599

**FIG. 6F**



## H77C

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
MSTNPKPQRK	TKRNINRRPQ	DVKFPGGGQI	VGGVYLLPRR	GPRLGVRATR	50
KTISERSQPRG	RRQPIPKARR	PEGRIWAQPG	YFWPLYGNEG	CGWAGWLLSP	100
RGSRPSWGPT	DPRRRSRNLG	KVIDTLTOGF	ADLMGYIPLV	GAPLGGAARA	150
LAHGVVLED	GVNYATGNLP	GCSFSIFLLA	LLSCLIVPAS	AYQVRNSSGL	200
YHVINDCENS	SIVYEAADAI	LHTFGCVPCV	REGNASRCWV	AVTPTVATRD	250
GKLPTTQLRR	HIDLLVGSAT	LCSALYVGDL	CGSVFLVGQL	FTFSPPRRHW	300
TQDCNCSTYP	GHTTGHMAW	DMMNWSPTA	ALVVAQLLRI	PQAIMDMIAG	350
AHWGVLGIA	YFSMVGWAK	VLVVLLEFAG	VDAETHVTGG	NAGRTTAGLV	400
GLLTPGAKQN	IQLININGSW	HINSTALNCN	ESLNIGWLAG	LFYQHKFNSS	450
GCPERLASCR	RLTDFAQGWG	PISYANGSGL	DERPYCWHP	PRPGIVPAK	500
SVCGFVYCFT	PSPVVGTID	RSGAPTYSWG	ANDIDVFVLN	NIRPPLGNWF	550
GCTWMNSTGF	TKVCGAPFCV	IGGVGNLILL	CPIDCFRKHP	EATYSRCGSG	600
FWITPRMVD	YPYRLWHYFC	TINYTIFKVR	MYVGGVEHRL	EAAQNWIRGE	650
RCDLEDRRS	ELSPLLLSTT	QWQVLPSCFT	TLPALSTGLI	HLHQNTVDVQ	700
YLYGVGSSIA	SWAIKWEYVW	LLFLLLADAR	VCSCILWMLL	ISQAEAALEN	750
LVILNAASLA	GIHGLVSFLV	FFCFAWYLKG	RWVFGAVYAL	YGMWPLLLLL	800
LALPQRAYAL	DTEVAASCGG	VVLVGLMALT	LSPYYKRYIS	WOMMWLQYFL	850
TRVEAQLHW	VPPLNVRGGR	DAVILLMCV	HPTLVFDITK	LLLAIFGPLW	900
ILQASLLKVP	YFVRVQGLR	ICALARKIAG	GHYVQMAIK	LGALTGTIVY	950
NHLTPLRDWA	HNGRLDLAVA	VEPVVFSRME	TKLITWGADT	AACGDIINGL	1000
PVSARRQGEI	LLGPADGMVS	KGWRLAPIT	AYAQQIRGLL	GCIITSLTGR	1050
DKNQVEGEVQ	IVSTATQTFL	ATCINGVCWT	VYHGAGIRTI	ASPKGPFVTQM	1100
YINVDQDLVG	WPAFQGSRS	TPCTCGSSDL	YLVTRHADVI	FVRRRGDSRG	1150
SLLSPRPISY	LKGSSGGPLL	CPAGHAVGLF	RAAVCIRGVA	KAVDFIPVEN	1200
LGTIMRSPVF	TINSSPPAVP	QSFQVAHLHA	PTGSGKSTKV	PAAYAAQGYK	1250
VLVINPSVAA	TLGFGAYMSK	AHGVDENIRT	GVRITTTIGSP	ITYSTYGFEL	1300
ADGGCSGGAY	DIIICDECHS	TDATSIIGIG	TVLDQAETAG	ARLVVLATAT	1350
PPGSVIVSHP	NIEEVALSTT	GEIPFYGKAI	PLEVIKGGRH	LIFCHSKKKC	1400
DELAALKVAL	GINAVAYYRG	LDVSVIPTSG	DVVVVSIDAL	MIGFTGDFDS	1450
VIDQNTCVIQ	TVDFSLDPTF	TIETTTLPQD	AVSRQRRGR	TGRGKPGIYR	1500
FVAPGERPSG	MFDSSVLCEC	YDAGCAWYEL	TPAETTVRLR	AYMNTPLPLV	1550
QQDHLEFWEG	VFTGLTHIDA	HFLSQIKQSG	ENFPYLWAYQ	ATVCARAQAP	1600
PPSWDQMKC	LIRLKPTLHG	PTFLLYRLGA	VQNEVILTHP	ITKYIMTCMS	1650
ADLEVVTSTW	VLVGGVLAAL	AAYCLSTGCV	VIVGRIVLSG	KPALIPDREV	1700
LYQEFDEMEE	CSQHLPTYEQ	GMLAEQFKQ	KALGLLQIAS	RHAEVITPAV	1750
QINWQKLEVF	WAKHMANFTS	GIQYLAGLST	LPGNPALASL	MAFTAAVTSP	1800
LTTGQTILFN	ILGGWAAQL	AAPGAATAFV	GAGLAGAAIG	SVGLGKVLVD	1850
ILAGYGAGVA	GALVAFKIMS	GEVPSTEDLV	NLLPAILSPG	ALVGVVCAA	1900

FIG. 6G

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## H77C

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
ILRRHVGPGE	GAVQWMNRLI	AFASRGNHVS	PTHVVPESDA	AARVTAILSS	1950
LIVTQLLRRL	HQWISSECTT	PCSGSWLRDI	WDWICEVLSD	FKTWLKAKLM	2000
PQLFGIPFVS	CQRGYRGVWR	GDGIMHIRCH	CGAETIGHVK	NGIMRIVGPR	2050
TCRNMWSGIF	PINAYTTIGFC	TPLPAPNYKF	ALWRVSAEY	VEIRRVGDFH	2100
YVSGMTIINL	KCPCQIPSP	FFTELDGVR	HRFAPCKPL	LREEVSFRVG	2150
LHEYFVGSQ	PCEPEPDVAV	LTSMLTDP	ITAEAGRRL	ARGSPPSMAS	2200
SSASQLSAPS	LKATCTANHD	SPDAELJEAN	LLWRQEMGGN	ITRVESENKV	2250
VILDSFDPLV	AEEDEREVS	PAEILRKSRR	FARALPWAR	PDYNPFLVET	2300
WKRPDYEPV	VHGCPPLPPR	SPPVPPPRKK	RTVVLTESTL	STALAEATK	2350
SFGSSSTSGI	TGDNITTSSE	PAPSGCPPDS	DVESYSSMPP	LEGEFGDFDL	2400
SDGSWSIVSS	GADIEDVOC	SMSYSWIGAL	VTPCAEEQK	LPINALSNSL	2450
LRHNLVYST	TSRSACQOK	KVIFDRLQVL	DSHYQDLKE	VKAAASKVKA	2500
NLLSVEEACS	LTPPHSAKSK	FGYGAKDVRC	HARKAVAHIN	SWKDLLED	2550
VTPIDITTIMA	KNEVFCVQPE	KGGRKPARLI	VFPDLGVRVC	EKMALYDVS	2600
KLPLAVMGSS	YGFQYSPQQR	VEFLVQAWKS	KKTPMGFSYD	TRCFDSTVTE	2650
SDIRTEEATY	QCCDLDPQAR	VAIKSLTERL	YVGGPLINSR	GENCGYRRCR	2700
ASGVLITSCG	NILTCYIKAR	AACRAAGLQD	CTMLVCGDDL	WICESAGVQ	2750
EDAASLRAFT	EAMIRYSAPP	GDPPQPEYDL	ELITSCSSNV	SVAHDGAGKR	2800
VYYLTRDPTT	PLARAAWEIA	RHTFVNSWL	NIIMFAPTLW	ARMILMTHFF	2850
SVLIARDQLE	QALNCETYGA	CYSIEPLDLP	PIIQRLHGLS	AFSLHSYSFG	2900
EINRVAACLR	KLGVPLRAW	RHRARSVRAR	LLSRGGRAAI	CGKYLEFWAV	2950
RTKLKLTPIA	AAGRDLDSGW	FTAGYSGGDI	YHSVSHARPR	WEWFCLLLA	3000
AGVGYLLEN	R				3011

FIG. 6H

## HC-J4

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
GCCAGCCCCC	TGATGGGGGC	GACACTCCAC	CATGAATCAC	TCCCCGTGGA	50
GGAACACTG	TCTTCACGA	GAAAGCGTCT	AGCCATGGCG	TTAGTATGAG	100
TGTGTTGCAG	CCTCCAGGAC	CCCCCTCC	GGGAGAGCCA	TAGTGGTCTG	150
CGGAACCGGT	GAGTACACCG	GAATTGCCAG	GACGACCGGG	TCCTTTCTTG	200
GATCAACCCG	CTCAATGCC	GGAGATTGG	GCGTGCCCC	GCGAGACTGC	250
TAGCCGAGTA	GTGTTGGGTC	GCGAAGGGC	TTGTGGTACT	GCCTGATAGG	300
GTGCTTGCGA	GTGCCCCGGG	AGGCTCTGTA	GACCGTGCAC	CATGAGCCAG	350
AATCCTAAAC	CTCAAAGAAA	AACCAAACGT	AACACCAACC	GCCGCCACCA	400
GGACGTCAAG	TTCCCCGGCG	GTGGTCAGAT	CGTTGGTGGG	GTTTACCTGT	450
TGCCGCGCAG	GGGCCCCAGG	TTGGGTGTC	GCGCGACTAG	GAAGGCTTCC	500
GAGCGGTCC	AACCTCGTGG	AAGGCGACAA	CCTATCCCAA	AGGCTCGCCG	550
ACCCGAGGGC	AGGGCCTGGG	CTCAGCCCCG	GTACCCCTTG	CCCTCTATG	600
GCAATGAGGG	CCTGGGGTGG	GCAGGATGGC	TCCGTGTCAC	CCGCGGCTCC	650
CGGCCTAGTT	GGGGCCCCAC	GGACCCCCCG	CGTAGGTCCG	GTAACCTGGG	700
TAAGGTCATC	GATACCCCTA	CATGCGGCTT	CGCCGATCTC	ATGGGGTACA	750
TTCCGCTCGT	CGGCGCCCCC	CTAGGGGGCG	CTGCCAGGGC	CTTGGCACAC	800
GGTGTCCGGG	TTCTGGAGGA	CGGCGTGAAC	TATGCAACAG	GGAACCTGCC	850
CGGTGCTCT	TTCTCTATCT	TCCTCTTGGC	TCTGCTGTCC	TGTTTGACCA	900
TCCAGCTTC	CGCTTATGAA	GTGCGCAACG	TGTCCGGGAT	ATAACATGTC	950
ACGAACGACT	GCTCCAACCT	AAGCATTGIG	TATGAGGCAG	CGGACGTGAT	1000
CATGCATACT	CCCGGGTCCG	TGCCCTGTGT	TCAGGAGGGT	AACAGCTCCC	1050
GTGCTGGGT	AGCGCTCACT	CCCACGCTCG	CGGCCAGGAA	TGCCAGCGTC	1100
CCCACTACGA	CAATACGACG	CCACGTCGAC	TTGCTCGTTG	GGACGGCTGC	1150
TTCTGCTCC	GCTATGTACG	TGGGGGATCT	CTGCCGATCT	ATTTTCTCTG	1200
TCTCCAGCT	GTTCACCTTC	TGGCCTCGCC	GGCATGAGAC	AGTGCAGGAC	1250
TGCAACTGCT	CAATCTATCC	CGGCCATGTA	TCAGGTCAAC	GCATGGCTTG	1300
GGATATGATG	ATGAACTGGT	CACCTACAAC	AGCCCTAGTG	GTGTCCGAGT	1350
TGCTCCGGAT	CCCACAAGCT	GTGTTGGACA	TGGTGGCGGG	GGCCCACTGG	1400
GGAGTCTGG	CGGGCCTTGC	CTACTATTCC	ATGGTATGGGA	ACTGGGCTAA	1450
GGTTCGTATT	GTGGCGCTAC	TCTTTGCCGG	CGTTGACGGG	GAGACCCACA	1500
CGACGGGGAG	GGTGGCCGGC	CACACCACT	CCGGGTTCAC	GTCCCTTTTC	1550
TCATCTGGGG	CGTCTCAGAA	AATCCAGCTT	GIGAATACCA	ACGGCAGCTG	1600
GCACATCAAC	AGGACTGCCC	TAAATTGCAA	TGACTCCCTC	CAAACCTGGT	1650
TCTTTGCCGC	GCTGTFTTAC	GCACACAAGT	TCAACTCGTC	CGGGTGCCCG	1700
GAGCGCATGG	CCAGCTGCCG	CCCATTGAC	TGGTTCCGCC	AGGGGTGGGG	1750
CCCCATCACC	TATACTAAGC	CTAACAGCTC	GGATCAGAGG	CCTTATTGCT	1800
GGCATTACGC	GCCTCGACCG	TGTGGTGTCC	TACCCGGGTC	GCAGGTGTGT	1850
GGTCCAGTGT	ATTGTFTTAC	CCCAAGCCCT	GTGTGGGTGG	GGACCACCGA	1900

FIG. 7A

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## HC-J4

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
TGGTTCGGGT	GTCCCTACGT	ATAGCTGGGG	GGAGAATGAG	ACAGACGTGA	1950
TGCTCCTCAA	CAACACGGGT	CGGCCACAAG	GCAACTGGTT	CGGCTGTACA	2000
TGGATGAATA	GTACTGGGTT	CACIAAGACG	TGCGGAGGTC	CCCCGTGTAA	2050
CATGGGGGGG	GTGGGTAAAC	GCACCTTGAT	CTGCCCCAAG	GACTGCTTCC	2100
GGAAGCACCC	CGAGGCTACT	TACACAAAAT	GTGGCTGGGG	GGCTGGGTTG	2150
ACAOC TAGGT	GCCTAGTAGA	CTACCCATAC	AGGCTTTGGC	ACTACCCCTG	2200
CACCTCTCAAT	TTTTCCATCT	TAAAGGTTAG	GATGTATGTG	GGGGGGGTGG	2250
AGCACAGGCT	CAATGCCGCA	TGCAATTGGA	CTCGAGGAGA	GCGCTGTAAAC	2300
TTGGAGGACA	GGGATAGGTC	AGAACTCAGC	CGCTGCTGTC	TGCTTACAAC	2350
AGAGTGGCAG	ATACTGCCCT	GTGCTTTTAC	CACCTTACCG	GCTTTATCCA	2400
CTGGTTTGAT	CCATCTCCAT	CAGAACATCG	TGGACGTGCA	ATACCTGTAC	2450
GGTGTAGGGT	CAGCGTTTGT	CTCCTTTTGA	ATCAAATGGG	AGTACATCCT	2500
GTGCTTTTTC	CTTCTCCTGG	CAGACGGCGG	CGTGTGTGCC	TGCTTGTGGA	2550
TGATGCTGCT	GATAGCCCAG	GCTGAGGCGG	CCTTAGAGAA	CTTGGTGGTC	2600
CTCAATGGGG	CGTCCGTGGC	CGGAGCGCAT	GGTATCTCTT	CCTTTCTTGT	2650
GTTCCTCTGC	GGCGCTGGT	ACATTAAAGG	CAGGCTGGCT	CCTGGGGGGG	2700
CGTATGCTTT	TTATGGCGTA	TGGCCGCTGC	TCCGTCTCCT	ACTGGCGTTA	2750
CCACCACGAG	CTTACGCCCT	GGACCGGGAG	ATGGCTGCAT	CGTGGGGGGG	2800
TGCGGTTCTT	GTAGGTCTGG	TATTCTTGAC	CTTGTACCCA	TACTACAAAG	2850
TGTTTCTCAC	TAGGCTCATA	TGGTGGTTAC	AATACTTTAT	CACCAGAGCC	2900
GAGGCGCACA	TGCAAGTGTG	GGTCCCCCCC	CTCAACGTTT	GGGGAGGCGG	2950
CGATGCCATC	ATCCTCCTCA	CGTGTGCGGT	TCATCCAGAG	TAAATTTTTG	3000
ACATCACCAA	ACTCCTGCTC	GCCATACTCG	GGCGCTCAT	GGTGTCCAG	3050
GCTGGCATAA	CGAGAGTGGC	GTACTTGGTG	CGCGCTCAAG	GGCTCATTCG	3100
TGCATGCATG	TTAGTGGGAA	AAGTCGCGGG	GGGTCATTTT	GTCAAATGG	3150
TCTTCATGAA	GCTGGGCGCG	CTGACAGGTA	CGTACGTTTA	TAACCATCTT	3200
ACCCCACTGC	GGGACTGGGC	CCACGCGGGC	CTACGAGACC	TTGGGGTGGC	3250
GGTAGAGCCC	GTGCTCTTCT	CGGCATGGA	GACCAAGGTC	ATCACCTGGG	3300
GAGCAGACAC	CGCTGCGTGT	GGGGACATCA	TCTTGGGTCT	ACCGTCTCC	3350
GCCCGAAGGG	GGAAGGAGAT	ATTTTGTGGG	CCGCTGATA	GTCTCGAAGG	3400
GCAAGGGTGG	CGACTCCTTG	CGCCCATCAC	GGCTTACTCC	CAACAAACGC	3450
GGGGGGTACT	TGGTGTGATC	ATCACTAGCC	TCACAGGCGG	GGACAAGAAC	3500
CAGGTGGAAG	GGGAGGTTCA	AGTGGTTTCT	ACCGCAACAC	AATCTTTCTT	3550
GGCGAOC TGC	ATCAACGGCG	TGTGCTGGAC	TGCTTACCAT	GGCGCTGGCT	3600
CGAAGACCTT	AGCCGGTCCA	AAAGGTCCAA	TCACCCAAAT	GTACACCAAT	3650
GTAGACCTGG	ACCTCGTGGG	CTGGCAGGCG	CCCCCGGGG	CGCGCTCCAT	3700
GACACCATGC	AGCTGTGGCA	GCTCGGACCT	TTACTTGGTC	ACGAGACATG	3750
CTGATGTCAT	TCCGGTGGCG	CGGCGAGGCG	ACAGCAGGGG	AAGTCTACTC	3800

FIG. 7B

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## HC-J4

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
TCCCCAGGC	CCGTCTCCTA	CCTGAAAGGC	TOCTCGGGTG	GTCCATTGCT	3850
TTGCOCTTGG	GGGCAOGTGG	TGGGGGTCTT	COGGGCTGCT	GTGTGCAACC	3900
GGGGGGTGGC	GAAGGCGGTG	GACTTCATAC	COGTTGAGTC	TATGGAAACT	3950
ACCATGCGGT	CTCCGGTCTT	CACAGACAAC	TCAACCCCCC	CGGCTGTACC	4000
GCAGACATTG	CAAGTGGCAC	ATCTGCACGC	TOCTACTGGC	AGGGGCAAGA	4050
GCACCAAGT	GCGGGCTGGG	TATGCAGCCC	AAGGGTACAA	GGTGCTGGTC	4100
CTGAACCGGT	COGTTGCCGC	CAOCTTAGGG	TTTGGGGGGT	ATATGTCCAA	4150
GGCACACGGT	ATCGACCCCTA	ACATCAGAAC	TGGGGTAAAG	ACCATTACCA	4200
CGGGCGGCTC	CATTACGTAC	TCCACCTATG	GCAAGTTGCT	TGCCGACGGT	4250
GGCTGTCTTG	GGGGCGGCTA	TGACATCATA	ATATGTGATG	AGTGCCACTC	4300
AACGTACTGG	ACTACCATCT	TGGGCATGGG	CACAGTCTTG	GACCAAGGGG	4350
AGACGGCTGG	AGGGCGGCTC	GTGGTGGCTG	CCACGGCTAC	AOCTCCGGGA	4400
TGGGTACCG	TGCCACACCC	CAATATCGAG	GAAATAGGOC	TGTCCACAA	4450
TGGAGAGATC	CCCTTCTATG	GCAAAGGCAT	CCCATTTGAG	GCCATCAAGG	4500
GGGGGAGGCA	TCTCATTTTC	TGCCATTCCA	AGAAGAAATG	TGACGAGCTC	4550
GCCGCAAAGC	TGACAGGGCT	CGGACTGAAC	GCTGTAGCAT	ATTACCGGGG	4600
CCTTGATGTG	TCCGTCATAC	CGCCTATCGG	AGACGTGGTT	GTGGTGGCAA	4650
CAGACGCTCT	AATGACGGGT	TTCACGGGGG	ATTTTGACTC	AGTGATCGAC	4700
TGCAATACAT	GTGTACCCCA	GACAGTGGAC	TTCAGCTTGG	ATCCCACCTT	4750
CACCATTTGAG	ACGACGACCG	TGCCCCAAGA	CGGGGTGTGG	CGCTCGCAAC	4800
GGCGAGGTAG	AACTGGCAGG	GGTAGGAGTG	GCATCTACAG	GTTTGIGACT	4850
CCAGGAGAAC	GGCCCTCGGG	CATGTTGCGT	TCTTCGGTCC	TGTGTGAGTG	4900
CTATGACGGG	GGCTGTGCTT	GGTATGAGCT	CACGCCCCGT	GAGACCTCGG	4950
TTAGGTTGGG	GGCTTACCTA	AATACACCAG	GGTTGCCCGT	CTGCCAGGAC	5000
CATCTGGAGT	TCTGGGAGAG	CGTCTTCACA	GGCTCACCC	ACATAGATGC	5050
CCACTTCCTG	TCCCAGACTA	AACAGGCAGG	AGACAACTTT	CCTTACCTGG	5100
TGGCATATCA	AGCTACAGTG	TGCGCCAGGG	CTCAAGCTCC	ACCTCCATCG	5150
TGGGACCAA	TGTGGAAGTG	TCTCATACGG	CTGAAACCTA	CATGCAAGG	5200
GCCAACACCC	CTGCTGTATA	GGCTAGGAGC	CGTCCAAAAT	GAGGTATCC	5250
TCACACACCC	CATAACTAAA	TACATCATGG	CATGCATGTC	GGCTGACCTG	5300
GAGGTGCTCA	CTAGCAOCTG	GGTGCTGGTA	GGCGGAGTCC	TTCAGCTTT	5350
GGCCGCATAC	TGCTGACGA	CAGGCAGTGT	GGTCATTGTG	GGCAGGATCA	5400
TCTTGTCGGG	GAAGCCAGCT	GTGGTTCCCG	ACAGGGAAGT	CCCTTACCAG	5450
GAGTTGATG	AGATGGAAGA	GTGTGCTCA	CAACTTCCTT	ACATCGAGCA	5500
GGGAATGCAG	CTCGCCGAGC	AATTCAAGCA	AAAGGCGCTC	GGGTGTGTGC	5550
AAACGGCCAC	CAAGCAAGCG	GAGGCTGCTG	CTCCCGTGGT	GGAGTCCAAG	5600
TGGCGAGCCC	TTGAGACCTT	CTGGGCGAAG	CACATGTGGA	ATTTCATCAG	5650
CGGAATACAG	TACCTAGCAG	GCTTATCCAC	TCTGCCCTGGA	AACCCCGCGA	5700

FIG. 7C

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## HC-J4

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
TAGCATCATT	GATGGCATT	ACAGCTTCTA	TCACTAGCCC	GCTCACCACC	5750
CAAAACACCC	TCTGTGTTAA	CATCTTTGGG	GGATGGGTGG	CTGCCCCACT	5800
CGCTCCTCCC	AGCGCTGCGT	CAGCTTTTGT	GGGCGCCGGC	ATGCGCGGAG	5850
CGGCTGTGTT	CAGCATAGGC	CTTGGGAAGG	TGCTGTGTGA	CATCTTGGCG	5900
GGCTATGGGG	CAGGGGTAGC	CGGCGCACTC	GTGGCCTTTA	AGGTCATGAG	5950
CGGCGAGGTG	CCCTCCACCG	AGGAOCTGGT	CAACTTACTC	CCTGOCATCC	6000
TCTCTCCTGG	TGCCCCGGTC	GTCGGGGTGG	TGTGGGCAGC	AATACTGCGT	6050
CGGCACGTGG	GCCCCGGAGA	GGGGGCTGTG	CAGTGGATGA	ACCGGCTGAT	6100
AGGGTTGCGT	TGGCGGGGTA	ACCAOCTCTC	CCCTAOCAC	TATGTGCCIG	6150
AGAGCGACGC	TGCAGCACGT	GTCACTCAGA	TCTCTCTAG	CCTTACCATC	6200
ACTCAACTGC	TGAAGCGGCT	CCACAGTGG	ATTAATGAGG	ACTGCTCTAC	6250
GCCATGCTCC	GGCTCGTGGC	TAAGGGATGT	TTGGGATTGG	ATATGCACGG	6300
TGTTGACTGA	CTTCAAGACC	TGGCTCCAGT	CCAACTCCT	GCCGCGGTTA	6350
CCGGGAGTCC	CTTTCCTGTC	ATGCCAACGC	GGGTACAAGG	GAGTCTGGCG	6400
GGGGGACGGC	ATCATGCAAA	CCACCTGCC	ATGCGGAGCA	CAGATCGCCG	6450
GACATGTCAA	AAACGGTTCC	ATGAGGATCG	TAGGGCCTAG	AACCTGCAGC	6500
AACACGTGGC	ACGGAAAGTT	CCCCATCAAC	GCATACACCA	CGGGAOCTTG	6550
CACACCTCC	CCGGCGCCCA	ACTATTCCAG	GGCGCTATGG	CGGGTGGCTG	6600
CTGAGGAGTA	CGTGGAGGTT	ACGCGTGTGG	GGGATTTCCA	CTACGTGACG	6650
GGCATGACCA	CTGACAACGT	AAAGTGCCCA	TGCCAGGTTT	CGGCCCCCGA	6700
ATTCTTTCAG	GAGGTGGATG	GAGTGCGGTT	GCACAGGTAC	GCTCCGGCGT	6750
GCAAACCTCT	TCTACGGGAG	GACGTACAGT	TCCAGGTCCG	GCTCAACCAA	6800
TACTTGGTGG	GGTGCAGCT	CCCATGCGAG	CCCGAACCGG	ACGTAAACAGT	6850
GCTTACTTCC	ATGCTCACCG	ATCCCTCCCA	CATTACAGCA	GAGACGGCTA	6900
AGCGTAGGCT	GGCTAGAGGG	TCTCCCCCTT	CTTTAGCCAG	CTCATCAGCT	6950
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CTCCCCGGAC	GCTGACCTCA	TGGAGGCCAA	CCCTTTGTGG	CGGCAGGAGA	7050
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CGCGGCGGAG	ATCCTGCGAA	AATCCAGGAA	GTTCCTCTCA	GCGTTGCCCA	7200
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AGCTCCGGAT	CGTCCGGCGT	TGATAGCGGC	ACGGCGACCG	CCCTTCCTGA	7450
CCTGGCCTCC	GACGACGGTG	ACAAAGGATC	CGACGTTGAG	TGCTACTCCT	7500
CCATGCCCCC	CCTTGAAGGG	GAGCCGGGGG	ACCCCGATCT	CAGCGACGGG	7550
TCTTGGTCTA	CCGTGAGTGA	GGAGGCTAGT	GAGGATGTGG	TCTGCTGCTC	7600

FIG. 7D

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

## HC-J4

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AACATGGTCT	ACGCCACAAC	ATCCCGCAGC	GCAAGCCTCC	GGCAGAAGAA	7750
GGTCACTTT	GACAGATTGC	AAGTCTGGA	TGATCATTAC	OGGGAAGTAC	7800
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ATAGAGGAGG	CCTGCAAGCT	GACGCCCCCA	CATTGGGCCA	AATCCAAATT	7900
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ACATCCGCTC	CGTGTGGGAG	GACTTGCCTG	AAGACACTGA	AACACCAATT	8000
GACACCACCA	TCATGGCAAA	AAGTGAGGTT	TTCTGGGTCC	AAOCAGAGAA	8050
GGGAGGCCGC	AAGCCAGCTC	GCCCTATCGT	ATTCCAGAC	CTGGGAGTTC	8100
GTGTATGCGA	GAAGATGGCC	CTTTACGAAG	TGGTCTCCAC	CCTTCTCAG	8150
GCCGTGATGG	GCTCCTCATA	CGGATTTCAA	TACTCCCCCA	AGCAGCGGGT	8200
CGAGTTCCIG	GTGAATAOCT	GGAAATCAAA	GAAATGOOCT	ATGGGCTTCT	8250
CATATGACAC	CCGCTGTITT	GACTCAACGG	TCACTGAGAG	TGACATTGCT	8300
GTTGAGGAGT	CAATTTACCA	ATGTTGTGAC	TTGGCCCCCG	AGGCCAGACA	8350
GGCCATAAGG	TGCTCACAG	AGCGGCCTTA	CATCGGGGGT	CCCCTGACTA	8400
ACTCAAAAGG	GCAGAACTGC	GGTTATCGCC	GGTGGCGGC	AAGTGGCGTG	8450
CTGACGACTA	GCTGCGGTAA	TACCCCTACA	TGTTACTTGA	AGGCCACTGC	8500
AGCCTGTGGA	GCTGCAAAAGC	TCCAGGACTG	CACGATGCTC	GTGAACGGAG	8550
ACGACCTTGT	CGTTATCTGT	GAAAGCGCGG	GAACCCAGGA	GGATGCGGCG	8600
GCCCTACGAG	CCTTCACGGA	GGCTATGACT	AGGTATTCCG	CCCCCCCCCG	8650
GGATCCGCCC	CAACCAGAAT	ACGACCTGGA	GCTGATAACA	TCATGTTCTT	8700
CCAATGTGTC	AGTCGCGCAC	GATGCATCTG	GCAAAAGGGT	ATACTACCTC	8750
ACCCGTGACC	CCACCACCCC	CCTTGACAGG	GCTGGGTGGG	AGACAGCTAG	8800
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AAACTCACTC	CAATCCCGGC	CGCGTCCCAG	CTGGACTTGT	CTGGCTGGTT	9250
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GACCCCGCTG	GTTCCGTTG	TGCCTACTCC	TACTTTCTGT	AGGGGTAGGC	9350
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AAGCCATTTC	CTGTTTTTTT	TTTTTTTTTT	TTTTTTTTTT	TCTTTTTTTT	9450
TTTCTTCTCT	TTCCTTCTTT	TTTTCTTTTC	TTTTTCCCTT	CTTTAATGGT	9500

FIG. 7E

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

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CATGACTGCA	GAGAGTGCTG	ATACTGGCOCT	CTCTGCAGAT	CATGT	9595

FIG. 7F



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KASERSQPRG	RRQPIPKARR	PEGRAWAQPG	YFWPLYGNEG	LGWAGWLLSP	100
RGSRPSWGPT	DPRRRSRNLG	KVIDTLITCGF	ADIMGYIPLV	GAPLGGAARA	150
LAHGVRVLED	GVNYATGNLP	GCSFSIFLLA	LLSCLTIPAS	AYEVRNVSGI	200
YHVINDCSNS	SIVYEADVI	MHIFGCVPCV	QEGNSSROW	ALTPTLAARN	250
ASVPTTTIRR	HVDLLVGTAA	FCSAMYVGL	CGSIFLVSQL	FIFSPRRHET	300
VQDNCSTIYP	GHVSGHRMAW	DMMNWSPTT	ALWVSQLLRI	FQAVVDMVAG	350
AHWGLVAGLA	YYSMVGNWAK	VLIVALLEFAG	VDGEIHTTGR	VAGHTTSGFT	400
SLFSSGASQK	IQLVNINGSW	HINRIALNEN	DSLQIGFFAA	LFYAHKFNSS	450
GCPERMASCR	PIDWFAQGAG	PITYIKENSS	DQRPYQWHA	PRPGVVPAS	500
QVCGPVYCF	PSPVWGTID	RSGVPTYSWG	ENEIDVMLIN	NIRPPQGNWF	550
GCTWMNSTGF	TKTCGGPPCN	IGGVGNRTLI	CPIDCFRKHP	EATYIKOGSG	600
PWLTPRCLVD	YPYRLWHYPC	TLNFSIFKVR	MYVGGVEHRL	NAAQNWIRGE	650
RONLEDRDRS	ELSPILLSTT	EWQILPCAFT	TLPALSTGLI	HLHONTVDVQ	700
YLYGVGSFAV	SFAIKWEYIL	LLFLLIADAR	VCACIWMMLL	IAQAEAALEN	750
LWVLNAASVA	GAHGILSFLV	FFCAAWYIKG	RLAPGAAYAF	YGVWFLLLLL	800
LALPPRAYAL	DREMAASCGG	AVLVGLVFLT	LSPYKVFILT	RLIWWLQYFT	850
TRAEAHMQW	VPPLNVRGGR	DAIILLTCAV	HPELIFDTIK	LLAILGLPLM	900
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NHLITPLRDA	HAGLRDLAVA	VEPVVFSAME	TKVTIWGADT	AACGDIILGL	1000
PVSARRGKEI	FLGPADSLEG	QGWRLAPITT	AYSQOTRGVL	GCIITSLTGR	1050
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YTNVDLDELG	WQAPPGARSM	TPSCGSSDL	YLVTRHADVI	PVRRRGDSRG	1150
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ADGGCSGGAY	DIICDECHS	TDSTITLGIG	TVLDQAETAG	ARLVLATAT	1350
PPGSVTVPH	NIEEIGLSNN	GEIPFYGKAI	PIEAIKGRH	LIFCHSKKKC	1400
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QDHLEFWES	VFTGLTHIDA	HFLSQTQKQAG	DNFPYLVAYQ	ATVCARAQAP	1600
PPSWDQMKC	LIRLKPILHG	PTPLLYRLGA	VQNEVILTHP	ITKYTMACMS	1650
ADLEVVTSTW	VLVGGVLAAL	AAYCLITGVS	VTVGRITLSG	KPAVVPDREV	1700
LYQEFDEMEE	CASQLPYIEQ	GMQLAEQFKQ	KALGLLQIAT	KQAEAAAPVV	1750
ESKWRALETF	WAKHMANFTS	GIQYLAGLST	LPGNPATASL	MAFTASITSP	1800
LITQNTILFN	ILGGWAAQL	APPSAASAFV	GAGIAGAAVG	SIGLGKVLVD	1850
ILAGYGAGVA	GALVAFKMS	GEVPSTEDLV	NLLPAILSPG	ALVVGVCVAA	1900

FIG. 7G

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

10	20	30	40	50	
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PRLPGVPFLS	CQRGYKQWR	GDGIMQITCP	CGAQIAGHVK	NGSMRIVGPR	2050
TCSNIWHGTF	PINAYTTGFC	TPSPAPNYSR	ALWRVAAEEY	VEVTRVGDFH	2100
YVTGMTILNW	KCPQVPAPE	FFTEVDGVRL	HRYAPACKPL	LREDVTFQVG	2150
INQYLVSQQL	PCEPEPDVTV	LTSMLTDPST	ITAETAKRRL	ARGSPPSLAS	2200
SSASQLSAPS	LKATCTTHHD	SPDADLIEAN	LWRQEMQGN	ITRVESENKV	2250
VILDSFEPLH	AEGEREISV	AAEILRKSRK	FPSALPIWAR	PDYNPPLES	2300
WKDPDYVFPV	VHGCLPPTK	APPPIPPRRK	RIVVLITESV	SSALAEIATK	2350
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RHHNMVYATT	SRSASLRQKK	VTFDRLQVLD	DHYRDVLKEM	KAKASTVKAK	2500
LLSTEEACKL	TPPHSAKSKF	GYGAKDVRNL	SSRAVNHIRS	WEDLLEDIE	2550
TPIDITIMAK	SEVFCVQPEK	GGRKPARLIV	FPDLGVRVCE	KMALYDVVST	2600
LPQAVMGSSY	GFOYSEKQRV	EFLVNTWWSK	KCEMGFSYDT	RCFDSTVIES	2650
DIRVEESTYQ	CCDLAPEARQ	AIRSLTERLY	IGGPLTNSKG	QNOGYRRORA	2700
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DAAALRAFTE	AMIRYSAPPG	DPPQPEYDLE	LITSCSSNVS	VAHDASGKRV	2800
YYLTRDPTTP	LARAAWETAR	HTPINSWLGN	IIMYAPILWA	RMILMIHFFS	2850
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GVGIYLLPNR					3010

FIG. 7H

## SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> Yanagi, Masayuki  
 Emerson, Suzanne  
 Bukh, Jens  
 Purcell, Robert

<120> Cloned Genome of Infectious Hepatitis C Viruses of  
 Genotype 2a and Uses Thereof

<130> 20264302PC

<140> TBA

<141> 2000-06-02

<150> 60/137,693

<151> 1999-06-04

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<170> PatentIn Ver. 2.1

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<211> 9711

<212> DNA

<213> Hepatitis C virus

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&lt;210&gt; 2

&lt;211&gt; 3033

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Hepatitis C virus

&lt;400&gt; 2

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Gly Val Tyr Leu Leu Pro Arg Arg Gly Pro Arg Leu Gly Val Arg Ala  
 35 40 45

Thr Arg Lys Thr Ser Glu Arg Ser Gln Pro Arg Gly Arg Arg Gln Pro  
 50 55 60

Ile Pro Lys Asp Arg Arg Ser Thr Gly Lys Ser Trp Gly Lys Pro Gly  
 65 70 75 80

Tyr Pro Trp Pro Leu Tyr Gly Asn Glu Gly Leu Gly Trp Ala Gly Trp  
 85 90 95

Leu Leu Ser Pro Arg Gly Ser Arg Pro Ser Trp Gly Pro Asn Asp Pro  
 100 105 110

Arg His Arg Ser Arg Asn Val Gly Lys Val Ile Asp Thr Leu Thr Cys  
 115 120 125

Gly Phe Ala Asp Leu Met Gly Tyr Ile Pro Val Val Gly Ala Pro Leu  
 130 135 140

Gly Gly Val Ala Arg Ala Leu Ala His Gly Val Arg Val Leu Glu Asp  
 145 150 155 160

Gly Val Asn Phe Ala Thr Gly Asn Leu Pro Gly Cys Ser Phe Ser Ile  
 165 170 175

Phe Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Ser Cys Ile Thr Thr Pro Val Ser Ala Ala  
 180 185 190

Glu Val Lys Asn Ile Ser Thr Gly Tyr Met Val Thr Asn Asp Cys Thr  
 195 200 205

Asn Asp Ser Ile Thr Trp Gln Leu Gln Ala Ala Val Leu His Val Pro  
 210 215 220

Gly Cys Val Pro Cys Glu Lys Val Gly Asn Ala Ser Gln Cys Trp Ile  
 225 230 235 240  
 Pro Val Ser Pro Asn Val Ala Val Gln Arg Pro Gly Ala Leu Thr Gln  
 245 250 255  
 Gly Leu Arg Thr His Ile Asp Met Val Val Met Ser Ala Thr Leu Cys  
 260 265 270  
 Ser Ala Leu Tyr Val Gly Asp Leu Cys Gly Gly Val Met Leu Ala Ala  
 275 280 285  
 Gln Met Phe Ile Val Ser Pro Gln His His Trp Phe Val Gln Asp Cys  
 290 295 300  
 Asn Cys Ser Ile Tyr Pro Gly Thr Ile Thr Gly His Arg Met Ala Trp  
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 Asp Met Met Met Asn Trp Ser Pro Thr Ala Thr Met Ile Leu Ala Tyr  
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 Ala Met Arg Val Pro Glu Val Ile Ile Asp Ile Ile Ser Gly Ala His  
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 Trp Gly Val Met Phe Gly Leu Ala Tyr Phe Ser Met Gln Gly Ala Trp  
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 Ala Lys Val Val Val Ile Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Asp Ala Arg  
 370 375 380  
 Thr His Thr Val Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Gln Thr Thr Gly Arg Leu Thr  
 385 390 395 400  
 Ser Leu Phe Asp Met Gly Pro Arg Gln Lys Ile Gln Leu Val Asn Thr  
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 Asn Gly Ser Trp His Ile Asn Arg Thr Ala Leu Asn Cys Asn Asp Ser  
 420 425 430  
 Leu His Thr Gly Phe Ile Ala Ser Leu Phe Tyr Thr His Ser Phe Asn  
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 Ser Ser Gly Cys Pro Glu Arg Met Ser Ala Cys Arg Ser Ile Glu Ala  
 450 455 460  
 Phe Arg Val Gly Trp Gly Ala Leu Gln Tyr Glu Asp Asn Val Thr Asn  
 465 470 475 480



Pro Glu Asp Met Arg Pro Tyr Cys Trp His Tyr Pro Pro Arg Gln Cys  
 485 490 495

Gly Val Val Ser Ala Lys Thr Val Cys Gly Pro Val Tyr Cys Phe Thr  
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Pro Ser Pro Val Val Val Gly Thr Thr Asp Arg Leu Gly Ala Pro Thr  
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Tyr Thr Trp Gly Glu Asn Glu Thr Asp Val Phe Leu Leu Asn Ser Thr  
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Arg Pro Pro Leu Gly Ser Trp Phe Gly Cys Thr Trp Met Asn Ser Ser  
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Gly Tyr Thr Lys Thr Cys Gly Ala Pro Pro Cys Arg Thr Arg Ala Asp  
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Phe Asn Ala Ser Thr Asp Leu Leu Cys Pro Thr Asp Cys Phe Arg Lys  
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His Pro Asp Thr Thr Tyr Leu Lys Cys Gly Ser Gly Pro Trp Leu Thr  
 595 600 605

Pro Arg Cys Leu Ile Asp Tyr Pro Tyr Arg Leu Trp His Tyr Pro Cys  
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Thr Val Asn Tyr Thr Ile Phe Lys Ile Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Gly Val  
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Glu His Arg Leu Thr Ala Ala Cys Asn Phe Thr Arg Gly Asp Arg Cys  
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Asn Leu Glu Asp Arg Asp Arg Ser Gln Leu Ser Pro Leu Leu His Ser  
 660 665 670

Thr Thr Glu Trp Ala Ile Leu Pro Cys Ser Tyr Ser Asp Leu Pro Ala  
 675 680 685

Leu Ser Thr Gly Leu Leu His Leu His Gln Asn Ile Val Asp Val Gln  
 690 695 700

Phe Met Tyr Gly Leu Ser Pro Ala Leu Thr Lys Tyr Ile Val Arg Trp  
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Glu Trp Val Ile Leu Leu Phe Leu Leu Leu Ala Asp Ala Arg Val Cys  
 725 730 735

Ala Cys Leu Trp Met Leu Ile Leu Leu Gly Gln Ala Glu Ala Ala Leu  
740 745 750

Glu Lys Leu Val Ile Leu His Ala Ala Ser Ala Ala Ser Cys Asn Gly  
755 760 765

Phe Leu Tyr Phe Val Ile Phe Phe Val Ala Ala Trp Tyr Ile Lys Gly  
770 775 780

Arg Val Val Pro Leu Ala Thr Tyr Ser Leu Thr Gly Leu Trp Ser Phe  
785 790 795 800

Ser Leu Leu Leu Leu Ala Leu Pro Gln Gln Ala Tyr Ala Tyr Asp Ala  
805 810 815

Ser Val His Gly Gln Ile Gly Ala Ala Leu Leu Val Met Ile Thr Leu  
820 825 830

Phe Thr Leu Thr Pro Gly Tyr Lys Thr Leu Leu Ser Arg Phe Leu Trp  
835 840 845

Trp Leu Cys Tyr Leu Leu Thr Leu Gly Glu Ala Met Val Gln Glu Trp  
850 855 860

Ala Pro Pro Met Gln Val Arg Gly Gly Arg Asp Gly Ile Ile Trp Ala  
865 870 875 880

Val Ala Ile Phe Tyr Pro Gly Val Val Phe Asp Ile Thr Lys Trp Leu  
885 890 895

Leu Ala Val Leu Gly Pro Ala Tyr Leu Leu Lys Gly Ala Leu Thr Arg  
900 905 910

Val Pro Tyr Phe Val Arg Ala His Ala Leu Leu Arg Met Cys Thr Met  
915 920 925

Ala Arg His Leu Ala Gly Gly Arg Tyr Val Gln Met Ala Leu Leu Ala  
930 935 940

Leu Gly Arg Trp Thr Gly Thr Tyr Ile Tyr Asp His Leu Thr Pro Met  
945 950 955 960

Ser Asp Trp Ala Ala Ser Gly Leu Arg Asp Leu Ala Val Ala Val Glu  
965 970 975

Pro Ile Ile Phe Ser Pro Met Glu Lys Lys Val Ile Val Trp Gly Ala  
980 985 990

Glu Thr Ala Ala Cys Gly Asp Ile Leu His Gly Leu Pro Val Ser Ala  
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Lys Gly Trp Ser Leu Leu Ala Pro Ile Thr Ala Tyr Ala Gln Gln Thr  
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Thr Glu Gln Ala Gly Glu Ile Gln Val Leu Ser Thr Val Thr Gln Ser  
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Tyr Ser Ser Ala Glu Gly Asp Leu Val Gly Trp Pro Ser Pro Pro Gly  
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Pro Val Glu Thr Leu Asp Ile Val Thr Arg Ser Pro Thr Phe Ser Asp  
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Tyr Ser Thr Tyr Gly Lys Phe Leu Ala Asp Gly Gly Cys Ala Gly Gly  
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Ser Glu Thr Thr Val Arg Leu Arg Ala Tyr Phe Asn Thr Pro Gly Leu			
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Pro Val Cys Gln Asp His Leu Glu Phe Trp Glu Ala Val Phe Thr Gly			
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Leu Thr His Ile Asp Ala His Phe Leu Ser Gln Thr Lys Gln Ser Gly			
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Glu Asn Phe Ala Tyr Leu Thr Ala Tyr Gln Ala Thr Val Cys Ala Arg			
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Arg Leu Lys Pro Thr Leu Val Gly Pro Thr Pro Leu Leu Tyr Arg Leu			
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Gly Ser Val Thr Asn Glu Val Thr Leu Thr His Pro Val Thr Lys Tyr			
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Val Val Ala Pro Asp Lys Glu Val Leu Tyr Glu Ala Phe Asp Glu Met			
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Glu Glu Cys Ala Ser Arg Ala Ala Leu Ile Glu Glu Gly Gln Arg Ile			
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Ala Glu Met Leu Lys Ser Lys Ile Gln Gly Leu Leu Gln Gln Ala Ser			
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Lys Gln Ala Gln Asp Ile Gln Pro Thr Val Gln Ala Ser Trp Pro Lys			
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Gln Tyr Leu Ala Gly Leu Ser Thr Leu Pro Gly Asn Pro Ala Val Ala			
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Ser Met Met Ala Phe Ser Ala Ala Leu Thr Ser Pro Leu Ser Thr Ser			
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Ala Gly Tyr Gly Ala Gly Ile Ser Gly Ala Leu Val Ala Phe Lys Ile			
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Met Ser Gly Glu Lys Pro Ser Met Glu Asp Val Val Asn Leu Leu Pro			
1875	1880	1885	
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His Tyr Val Thr Glu Ser Asp Ala Ser Gln Arg Val Thr Gln Leu Leu			
1940	1945	1950	
Gly Ser Leu Thr Ile Thr Ser Leu Leu Arg Arg Leu His Asn Trp Ile			
1955	1960	1965	
Thr Glu Asp Cys Pro Ile Pro Cys Gly Gly Ser Trp Leu Arg Asp Val			
1970	1975	1980	
Trp Asp Trp Val Cys Thr Ile Leu Thr Asp Phe Lys Asn Trp Leu Thr			
1985	1990	1995	2000
Ser Lys Leu Phe Pro Lys Met Pro Gly Leu Pro Phe Val Ser Cys Gln			
2005	2010	2015	

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Pro Thr Thr Ile Met Ala Lys Asn Glu Val Phe Cys Val Asp Pro Thr  
 2580 2585 2590

Lys Gly Gly Lys Lys Ala Ala Arg Leu Ile Val Tyr Pro Asp Leu Gly  
 2595 2600 2605

Val Arg Val Cys Glu Lys Met Ala Leu Tyr Asp Ile Thr Gln Lys Leu  
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Pro Gln Ala Val Met Gly Ala Ser Tyr Gly Phe Gln Tyr Ser Pro Ala  
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Gln Arg Val Glu Phe Leu Leu Lys Ala Trp Ala Glu Lys Lys Asp Pro  
 2645 2650 2655

Met Gly Phe Ser Tyr Asp Thr Arg Cys Phe Asp Ser Thr Val Thr Glu  
 2660 2665 2670

Arg Asp Ile Arg Thr Glu Glu Ser Ile Tyr Arg Ala Cys Ser Leu Pro  
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Glu Glu Ala His Thr Ala Ile His Ser Leu Thr Glu Arg Leu Tyr Val  
 2690 2695 2700

Gly Gly Pro Met Phe Asn Ser Lys Gly Gln Thr Cys Gly Tyr Arg Arg  
 2705 2710 2715 2720

Cys Arg Ala Ser Gly Val Leu Thr Thr Ser Met Gly Asn Thr Ile Thr  
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Cys Tyr Val Lys Ala Leu Ala Ala Cys Lys Ala Ala Gly Ile Ile Ala  
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Met Thr Arg Tyr Ser Ala Pro Pro Gly Asp Pro Pro Arg Pro Glu Tyr  
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Gly Pro Gln Gly Arg Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Leu Thr Arg Asp Pro Thr Thr  
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Ser Trp Leu Gly Asn Ile Ile Gln Tyr Ala Pro Thr Ile Trp Ala Arg  
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Met Val Leu Met Thr His Phe Phe Ser Ile Leu Met Ala Gln Asp Thr  
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Ala Phe Ser Leu His Thr Tyr Thr Pro His Glu Leu Thr Arg Val Ala  
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Lys Leu Thr Pro Leu Pro Glu Ala Arg Leu Leu Asp Leu Ser Ser Trp  
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Phe Thr Val Gly Ala Gly Gly Gly Asp Ile Tyr His Ser Val Ser Arg  
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Val Gly Leu Phe Leu Leu Pro Ala Arg  
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&lt;210&gt; 3

&lt;211&gt; 9611

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Hepatitis C virus

&lt;400&gt; 3

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9611

&lt;210&gt; 4

&lt;211&gt; 3015

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Hepatitis C virus

&lt;400&gt; 4

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Arg Arg Pro Gln Asp Val Lys Phe Pro Gly Gly Gly Gln Ile Val Gly
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Gly Val Tyr Leu Leu Pro Arg Arg Gly Pro Arg Leu Gly Val Arg Ala
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Thr Arg Lys Thr Ser Glu Arg Ser Gln Pro Arg Gly Arg Arg Gln Pro
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Ile Pro Lys Asp Arg Arg Ser Thr Gly Lys Ser Trp Gly Lys Pro Gly
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Tyr Pro Trp Pro Leu Tyr Gly Asn Glu Gly Leu Gly Trp Ala Gly Trp

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Gly Phe Ala Asp Leu Met Gly Tyr Ile Pro Val Val Gly Ala Pro Leu		
130	135	140
Gly Gly Val Ala Arg Ala Leu Ala His Gly Val Arg Val Leu Glu Asp		
145	150	155
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Gly Val Asn Phe Ala Thr Gly Asn Leu Pro Gly Cys Ser Phe Ser Ile		
165	170	175
Phe Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Ser Cys Ile Thr Thr Pro Val Ser Ala Ala		
180	185	190
Glu Val Lys Asn Ile Ser Thr Gly Tyr Met Val Thr Asn Asp Cys Thr		
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Asn Asp Ser Ile Thr Trp Gln Leu Gln Ala Ala Val Leu His Val Pro		
210	215	220
Gly Cys Val Pro Cys Glu Lys Val Gly Asn Ala Ser Gln Cys Trp Ile		
225	230	235
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Pro Val Ser Pro Asn Val Ala Val Gln Arg Pro Gly Ala Leu Thr Gln		
245	250	255
Gly Leu Arg Thr His Ile Asp Met Val Val Met Ser Ala Thr Leu Cys		
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Ser Ala Leu Tyr Val Gly Asp Leu Cys Gly Gly Val Met Leu Ala Ala		
275	280	285
Gln Met Phe Ile Val Ser Pro Gln His His Trp Phe Val Gln Asp Cys		
290	295	300
Asn Cys Ser Ile Tyr Pro Gly Thr Ile Thr Gly His Arg Met Ala Trp		
305	310	315
320		
Asp Met Met Met Asn Trp Ser Pro Thr Ala Thr Met Ile Leu Ala Tyr		
325	330	335
Ala Met Arg Val Pro Glu Val Ile Ile Asp Ile Ile Ser Gly Ala His		

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Trp Gly Val Met Phe Gly Leu Ala Tyr Phe Ser Met Gln Gly Ala Trp		
355	360	365
Ala Lys Val Val Val Ile Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Asp Ala Arg		
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Thr His Thr Val Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Gln Thr Thr Gly Arg Leu Thr		
385	390	395 400
Ser Leu Phe Asp Met Gly Pro Arg Gln Lys Ile Gln Leu Val Asn Thr		
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Ser Ser Gly Cys Pro Glu Arg Met Ser Ala Cys Arg Ser Ile Glu Ala		
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Gly Tyr Thr Lys Thr Cys Gly Ala Pro Pro Cys Arg Thr Arg Ala Asp		
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Phe Asn Ala Ser Thr Asp Leu Leu Cys Pro Thr Asp Cys Phe Arg Lys		
580	585	590
His Pro Asp Thr Thr Tyr Leu Lys Cys Gly Ser Gly Pro Trp Leu Thr		



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Thr Val Asn Tyr Thr Ile Phe Lys Ile Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Gly Val		
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Glu His Arg Leu Thr Ala Ala Cys Asn Phe Thr Arg Gly Asp Arg Cys		
645	650	655
Asn Leu Glu Asp Arg Asp Arg Ser Gln Leu Ser Pro Leu Leu His Ser		
660	665	670
Thr Thr Glu Trp Ala Ile Leu Pro Cys Ser Tyr Ser Asp Leu Pro Ala		
675	680	685
Leu Ser Thr Gly Leu Leu His Leu His Gln Asn Ile Val Asp Val Gln		
690	695	700
Phe Met Tyr Gly Leu Ser Pro Ala Leu Thr Lys Tyr Ile Val Arg Trp		
705	710	715 720
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725	730	735
Ala Cys Leu Trp Met Leu Ile Leu Leu Gly Gln Ala Glu Ala Ala Leu		
740	745	750
Glu Lys Leu Val Ile Leu His Ala Ala Ser Ala Ala Ser Cys Asn Gly		
755	760	765
Phe Leu Tyr Phe Val Ile Phe Phe Val Ala Ala Trp Tyr Ile Lys Gly		
770	775	780
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785	790	795 800
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Glu Val Ala Ala Ser Cys Gly Gly Val Val Leu Val Gly Leu Met Ala		
820	825	830
Leu Thr Leu Ser Pro Tyr Tyr Lys Arg Tyr Ile Ser Trp Cys Met Trp		
835	840	845
Trp Leu Gln Tyr Phe Leu Thr Arg Val Glu Ala Gln Leu His Val Trp		

850	855	860
Val Pro Pro Leu Asn	Val Arg Gly Gly Arg Asp Ala	Val Ile Leu Leu
865	870	875 880
Met Cys Val Val His	Pro Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Ile Thr Lys	Leu Leu
885	890	895
Leu Ala Ile Phe Gly	Pro Leu Trp Ile Leu Gln Ala Ser	Leu Leu Lys
900	905	910
Val Pro Tyr Phe Val	Arg Val Gln Gly Leu Leu Arg Ile Cys Ala Leu	
915	920	925
Ala Arg Lys Ile Ala	Gly Gly His Tyr Val Gln Met Ala Ile Ile Lys	
930	935	940
Leu Gly Ala Leu Thr	Gly Thr Tyr Val Tyr Asn His Leu Thr Pro Leu	
945	950	955 960
Arg Asp Trp Ala His	Asn Gly Leu Arg Asp Leu Ala Val Ala Val Glu	
965	970	975
Pro Val Val Phe Ser	Arg Met Glu Thr Lys Leu Ile Thr Trp Gly Ala	
980	985	990
Asp Thr Ala Ala Cys	Gly Asp Ile Ile Asn Gly Leu Pro Val Ser Ala	
995	1000	1005
Arg Arg Gly Gln Glu	Ile Leu Leu Gly Pro Ala Asp Gly Met Val Ser	
1010	1015	1020
Lys Gly Trp Arg Leu	Leu Ala Pro Ile Thr Ala Tyr Ala Gln Gln Thr	
1025	1030	1035 1040
Arg Gly Leu Leu Gly	Cys Ile Ile Thr Ser Leu Thr Gly Arg Asp Lys	
1045	1050	1055
Asn Gln Val Glu Gly	Glu Val Gln Ile Val Ser Thr Ala Thr Gln Thr	
1060	1065	1070
Phe Leu Ala Thr Cys	Ile Asn Gly Val Cys Trp Thr Val Tyr His Gly	
1075	1080	1085
Ala Gly Thr Arg Thr	Ile Ala Ser Pro Lys Gly Pro Val Ile Gln Met	
1090	1095	1100
Tyr Thr Asn Val Asp	Gln Asp Leu Val Gly Trp Pro Ala Pro Gln Gly	

1105	1110	1115	1120
Ser Arg Ser Leu Thr Pro Cys Thr Cys Gly Ser Ser Asp Leu Tyr Leu			
1125	1130	1135	
Val Thr Arg His Ala Asp Val Ile Pro Val Arg Arg Arg Gly Asp Ser			
1140	1145	1150	
Arg Gly Ser Leu Leu Ser Pro Arg Pro Ile Ser Tyr Leu Lys Gly Ser			
1155	1160	1165	
Ser Gly Gly Pro Leu Leu Cys Pro Ala Gly His Ala Val Gly Leu Phe			
1170	1175	1180	
Arg Ala Ala Val Cys Thr Arg Gly Val Ala Lys Ala Val Asp Phe Ile			
1185	1190	1195	1200
Pro Val Glu Asn Leu Gly Thr Thr Met Arg Ser Pro Val Phe Thr Asp			
1205	1210	1215	
Asn Ser Ser Pro Pro Ala Val Pro Gln Ser Phe Gln Val Ala His Leu			
1220	1225	1230	
His Ala Pro Thr Gly Ser Gly Lys Ser Thr Lys Val Pro Ala Ala Tyr			
1235	1240	1245	
Ala Ala Gln Gly Tyr Lys Val Leu Val Leu Asn Pro Ser Val Ala Ala			
1250	1255	1260	
Thr Leu Gly Phe Gly Ala Tyr Met Ser Lys Ala His Gly Val Asp Pro			
1265	1270	1275	1280
Asn Ile Arg Thr Gly Val Arg Thr Ile Thr Thr Gly Ser Pro Ile Thr			
1285	1290	1295	
Tyr Ser Thr Tyr Gly Lys Phe Leu Ala Asp Gly Gly Cys Ser Gly Gly			
1300	1305	1310	
Ala Tyr Asp Ile Ile Ile Cys Asp Glu Cys His Ser Thr Asp Ala Thr			
1315	1320	1325	
Ser Ile Leu Gly Ile Gly Thr Val Leu Asp Gln Ala Glu Thr Ala Gly			
1330	1335	1340	
Ala Arg Leu Val Val Leu Ala Thr Ala Thr Pro Pro Gly Ser Val Thr			
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Val Ser His Pro Asn Ile Glu Glu Val Ala Leu Ser Thr Thr Gly Glu			

1365	1370	1375
Ile Pro Phe Tyr Gly Lys Ala	Ile Pro Leu Glu Val	Ile Lys Gly Gly
1380	1385	1390
Arg His Leu Ile Phe Cys His Ser Lys Lys Lys Cys Asp Glu Leu Ala		
1395	1400	1405
Ala Lys Leu Val Ala Leu Gly Ile Asn Ala Val Ala Tyr Tyr Arg Gly		
1410	1415	1420
Leu Asp Val Ser Val Ile Pro Thr Ser Gly Asp Val Val Val Val Ser		
1425	1430	1435
Thr Asp Ala Leu Met Thr Gly Phe Thr Gly Asp Phe Asp Ser Val Ile		
1445	1450	1455
Asp Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Thr Gln Thr Val Asp Phe Ser Leu Asp Pro		
1460	1465	1470
Thr Phe Thr Ile Glu Thr Thr Thr Leu Pro Gln Asp Ala Val Ser Arg		
1475	1480	1485
Thr Gln Arg Arg Gly Arg Thr Gly Arg Gly Lys Pro Gly Ile Tyr Arg		
1490	1495	1500
Phe Val Ala Pro Gly Glu Arg Pro Ser Gly Met Phe Asp Ser Ser Val		
1505	1510	1515
Leu Cys Glu Cys Tyr Asp Ala Gly Cys Ala Trp Tyr Glu Leu Thr Pro		
1525	1530	1535
Ala Glu Thr Thr Val Arg Leu Arg Ala Tyr Met Asn Thr Pro Gly Leu		
1540	1545	1550
Pro Val Cys Gln Asp His Leu Glu Phe Trp Glu Gly Val Phe Thr Gly		
1555	1560	1565
Leu Thr His Ile Asp Ala His Phe Leu Ser Gln Thr Lys Gln Ser Gly		
1570	1575	1580
Glu Asn Phe Pro Tyr Leu Val Ala Tyr Gln Ala Thr Val Cys Ala Arg		
1585	1590	1595
Ala Gln Ala Pro Pro Pro Ser Trp Asp Gln Met Trp Lys Cys Leu Ile		
1605	1610	1615
Arg Leu Lys Pro Thr Leu His Gly Pro Thr Pro Leu Leu Tyr Arg Leu		

1620	1625	1630
Gly Ala Val Gln Asn Glu Val Thr Leu Thr His Pro Ile Thr Lys Tyr		
1635	1640	1645
Ile Met Thr Cys Met Ser Ala Asp Leu Glu Val Val Thr Ser Thr Trp		
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Val Leu Val Gly Gly Val Leu Ala Ala Leu Ala Ala Tyr Cys Leu Ser		
1665	1670	1675 1680
Thr Gly Cys Val Val Ile Val Gly Arg Ile Val Leu Ser Gly Lys Pro		
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Ala Ile Ile Pro Asp Arg Glu Val Leu Tyr Gln Glu Phe Asp Glu Met		
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Glu Glu Cys Ser Gln His Leu Pro Tyr Ile Glu Gln Gly Met Met Leu		
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Ala Glu Gln Phe Lys Gln Lys Ala Leu Gly Leu Leu Gln Thr Ala Ser		
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Arg His Ala Glu Val Ile Thr Pro Ala Val Gln Thr Asn Trp Gln Lys		
1745	1750	1755 1760
Leu Glu Val Phe Trp Ala Lys His Met Trp Asn Phe Ile Ser Gly Ile		
1765	1770	1775
Gln Tyr Leu Ala Gly Leu Ser Thr Leu Pro Gly Asn Pro Ala Ile Ala		
1780	1785	1790
Ser Leu Met Ala Phe Thr Ala Ala Val Thr Ser Pro Leu Thr Thr Gly		
1795	1800	1805
Gln Thr Leu Leu Phe Asn Ile Leu Gly Gly Trp Val Ala Ala Gln Leu		
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Ala Ala Pro Gly Ala Ala Thr Ala Phe Val Gly Ala Gly Leu Ala Gly		
1825	1830	1835 1840
Ala Ala Ile Gly Ser Val Gly Leu Gly Lys Val Leu Val Asp Ile Leu		
1845	1850	1855
Ala Gly Tyr Gly Ala Gly Val Ala Gly Ala Leu Val Ala Phe Lys Ile		
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Met Ser Gly Glu Val Pro Ser Thr Glu Asp Leu Val Asn Leu Leu Pro		

1875	1880	1885
Ala Ile Leu Ser Pro Gly	Ala Leu Val Val Gly	Val Val Cys Ala Ala
1890	1895	1900
Ile Leu Arg Arg His Val	Gly Pro Gly Glu Gly	Ala Val Gln Trp Met
1905	1910	1915 1920
Asn Arg Leu Ile Ala Phe	Ala Ser Arg Gly Asn His	Val Ser Pro Thr
1925	1930	1935
His Tyr Val Pro Glu Ser	Asp Ala Ala Ala Arg	Val Thr Ala Ile Leu
1940	1945	1950
Ser Ser Leu Thr Val Thr	Gln Leu Leu Arg Arg	Leu His Gln Trp Ile
1955	1960	1965
Ser Ser Glu Cys Thr Thr	Pro Cys Ser Gly Ser	Trp Leu Arg Asp Ile
1970	1975	1980
Trp Asp Trp Ile Cys Glu	Val Leu Ser Asp Phe	Lys Thr Trp Leu Lys
1985	1990	1995 2000
Ala Lys Leu Met Pro Gln	Leu Pro Gly Ile Pro	Phe Val Ser Cys Gln
2005	2010	2015
Arg Gly Tyr Arg Gly Val	Trp Arg Gly Asp Gly	Ile Met His Thr Arg
2020	2025	2030
Cys His Cys Gly Ala Glu	Ile Thr Gly His Val	Lys Asn Gly Thr Met
2035	2040	2045
Arg Ile Val Gly Pro Arg	Thr Cys Arg Asn Met	Trp Ser Gly Thr Phe
2050	2055	2060
Pro Ile Asn Ala Tyr Thr	Thr Gly Pro Cys Thr	Pro Leu Pro Ala Pro
2065	2070	2075 2080
Asn Tyr Lys Phe Ala Leu	Trp Arg Val Ser Ala	Glu Glu Tyr Val Glu
2085	2090	2095
Ile Arg Arg Val Gly Asp	Phe His Tyr Val Ser	Gly Met Thr Thr Asp
2100	2105	2110
Asn Leu Lys Cys Pro Cys	Gln Ile Pro Ser Pro	Glu Phe Phe Thr Glu
2115	2120	2125
Leu Asp Gly Val Arg Leu	His Arg Phe Ala Pro	Pro Cys Lys Pro Leu

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Leu Arg Glu Glu Val Ser Phe Arg Val Gly Leu His Glu Tyr Pro Val			
2145	2150	2155	2160
Gly Ser Gln Leu Pro Cys Glu Pro Glu Pro Asp Val Ala Val Leu Thr			
2165	2170	2175	
Ser Met Leu Thr Asp Pro Ser His Ile Thr Ala Glu Ala Ala Gly Arg			
2180	2185	2190	
Arg Leu Ala Arg Gly Ser Pro Pro Ser Met Ala Ser Ser Ser Ala Ser			
2195	2200	2205	
Gln Leu Ser Ala Pro Ser Leu Lys Ala Thr Cys Thr Ala Asn His Asp			
2210	2215	2220	
Ser Pro Asp Ala Glu Leu Ile Glu Ala Asn Leu Leu Trp Arg Gln Glu			
2225	2230	2235	2240
Met Gly Gly Asn Ile Thr Arg Val Glu Ser Glu Asn Lys Val Val Ile			
2245	2250	2255	
Leu Asp Ser Phe Asp Pro Leu Val Ala Glu Glu Asp Glu Arg Glu Val			
2260	2265	2270	
Ser Val Pro Ala Glu Ile Leu Arg Lys Ser Arg Arg Phe Ala Arg Ala			
2275	2280	2285	
Leu Pro Val Trp Ala Arg Pro Asp Tyr Asn Pro Pro Leu Val Glu Thr			
2290	2295	2300	
Trp Lys Lys Pro Asp Tyr Glu Pro Pro Val Val His Gly Cys Pro Leu			
2305	2310	2315	2320
Pro Pro Pro Arg Ser Pro Pro Val Pro Pro Pro Arg Lys Lys Arg Thr			
2325	2330	2335	
Val Val Leu Thr Glu Ser Thr Leu Ser Thr Ala Leu Ala Glu Leu Ala			
2340	2345	2350	
Thr Lys Ser Phe Gly Ser Ser Ser Thr Ser Gly Ile Thr Gly Asp Asn			
2355	2360	2365	
Thr Thr Thr Ser Ser Glu Pro Ala Pro Ser Gly Cys Pro Pro Asp Ser			
2370	2375	2380	
Asp Val Glu Ser Tyr Ser Ser Met Pro Pro Leu Glu Gly Glu Pro Gly			

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Asp Thr Glu Asp Val Val Cys Cys Ser Met Ser Tyr Ser Trp Thr Gly			
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Ala Leu Val Thr Pro Cys Ala Ala Glu Glu Gln Lys Leu Pro Ile Asn			
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Ala Leu Ser Asn Ser Leu Leu Arg His His Asn Leu Val Tyr Ser Thr			
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Thr Ser Arg Ser Ala Cys Gln Arg Gln Lys Lys Val Thr Phe Asp Arg			
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Ala Lys Asp Val Arg Cys His Ala Arg Lys Ala Val Ala His Ile Asn			
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Ser Val Trp Lys Asp Leu Leu Glu Asp Ser Val Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr			
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Thr Ile Met Ala Lys Asn Glu Val Phe Cys Val Gln Pro Glu Lys Gly			
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Gly Arg Lys Pro Ala Arg Leu Ile Val Phe Pro Asp Leu Gly Val Arg			
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Val Cys Glu Lys Met Ala Leu Tyr Asp Val Val Ser Lys Leu Pro Leu			
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Val Glu Phe Leu Val Gln Ala Trp Lys Ser Lys Lys Thr Pro Met Gly			
2625		2630	2635
Phe Ser Tyr Asp Thr Arg Cys Phe Asp Ser Thr Val Thr Glu Ser Asp			



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2660	2665	2670
Ala Arg Val Ala Ile Lys Ser Leu Thr Glu Arg Leu Tyr Val Gly Gly		
2675	2680	2685
Pro Leu Thr Asn Ser Arg Gly Glu Asn Cys Gly Tyr Arg Arg Cys Arg		
2690	2695	2700
Ala Ser Gly Val Leu Thr Thr Ser Cys Gly Asn Thr Leu Thr Cys Tyr		
2705	2710	2715
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Ile Lys Ala Arg Ala Ala Cys Arg Ala Ala Gly Leu Gln Asp Cys Thr		
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Met Leu Val Cys Gly Asp Asp Leu Val Val Ile Cys Glu Ser Ala Gly		
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Val Gln Glu Asp Ala Ala Ser Leu Arg Ala Phe Thr Glu Ala Met Thr		
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Arg Tyr Ser Ala Pro Pro Gly Asp Pro Pro Gln Pro Glu Tyr Asp Leu		
2770	2775	2780
Glu Leu Ile Thr Ser Cys Ser Ser Asn Val Ser Val Ala His Asp Gly		
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Ala Gly Lys Arg Val Tyr Tyr Leu Thr Arg Asp Pro Thr Thr Pro Leu		
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2820	2825	2830
Leu Gly Asn Ile Ile Met Phe Ala Pro Thr Leu Trp Ala Arg Met Ile		
2835	2840	2845
Leu Met Thr His Phe Phe Ser Val Leu Ile Ala Arg Asp Gln Leu Glu		
2850	2855	2860
Gln Ala Leu Asn Cys Glu Ile Tyr Gly Ala Cys Tyr Ser Ile Glu Pro		
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2885	2890	2895
Ser Leu His Ser Tyr Ser Pro Gly Glu Ile Asn Arg Val Ala Ala Cys		

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 Leu Arg Lys Leu Gly Val Pro Pro Leu Arg Ala Trp Arg His Arg Ala  
 2915                      2920                      2925  
 Arg Ser Val Arg Ala Arg Leu Leu Ser Arg Gly Gly Arg Ala Ala Ile  
 2930                      2935                      2940  
 Cys Gly Lys Tyr Leu Phe Asn Trp Ala Val Arg Thr Lys Leu Lys Leu  
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 Thr Pro Ile Ala Ala Ala Gly Arg Leu Asp Leu Ser Gly Trp Phe Thr  
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 3010                      3015

&lt;210&gt; 5

&lt;211&gt; 9611

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Hepatitis C virus

&lt;400&gt; 5

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gcagatcatg t 9611

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&lt;210&gt; 6

&lt;211&gt; 3015

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Hepatitis C virus

&lt;400&gt; 6

Met Ser Thr Asn Pro Lys Pro Gln Arg Lys Thr Lys Arg Asn Thr Asn  
 1 5 10 15

Arg Arg Pro Gln Asp Val Lys Phe Pro Gly Gly Gly Gln Ile Val Gly  
 20 25 30

Gly Val Tyr Leu Leu Pro Arg Arg Gly Pro Arg Leu Gly Val Arg Ala  
 35 40 45

Thr Arg Lys Thr Ser Glu Arg Ser Gln Pro Arg Gly Arg Arg Gln Pro  
 50 55 60

Ile Pro Lys Asp Arg Arg Ser Thr Gly Lys Ser Trp Gly Lys Pro Gly  
 65 70 75 80

Tyr Pro Trp Pro Leu Tyr Gly Asn Glu Gly Leu Gly Trp Ala Gly Trp  
 85 90 95

Leu Leu Ser Pro Arg Gly Ser Arg Pro Ser Trp Gly Pro Asn Asp Pro  
 100 105 110

Arg His Arg Ser Arg Asn Val Gly Lys Val Ile Asp Thr Leu Thr Cys  
 115 120 125

Gly Phe Ala Asp Leu Met Gly Tyr Ile Pro Val Val Gly Ala Pro Leu  
 130 135 140

Gly Gly Val Ala Arg Ala Leu Ala His Gly Val Arg Val Leu Glu Asp  
 145 150 155 160

Gly Val Asn Phe Ala Thr Gly Asn Leu Pro Gly Cys Ser Phe Ser Ile  
 165 170 175

Phe Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Ser Cys Ile Thr Thr Pro Val Ser Ala Ala  
 180 185 190

Glu Val Lys Asn Ile Ser Thr Gly Tyr Met Val Thr Asn Asp Cys Thr  
 195 200 205

Asn Asp Ser Ile Thr Trp Gln Leu Gln Ala Ala Val Leu His Val Pro  
 210 215 220

Gly Cys Val Pro Cys Glu Lys Val Gly Asn Ala Ser Gln Cys Trp Ile  
 225 230 235 240  
 Pro Val Ser Pro Asn Val Ala Val Gln Arg Pro Gly Ala Leu Thr Gln  
 245 250 255  
 Gly Leu Arg Thr His Ile Asp Met Val Val Met Ser Ala Thr Leu Cys  
 260 265 270  
 Ser Ala Leu Tyr Val Gly Asp Leu Cys Gly Gly Val Met Leu Ala Ala  
 275 280 285  
 Gln Met Phe Ile Val Ser Pro Gln His His Trp Phe Val Gln Asp Cys  
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 Asn Cys Ser Ile Tyr Pro Gly Thr Ile Thr Gly His Arg Met Ala Trp  
 305 310 315 320  
 Asp Met Met Met Asn Trp Ser Pro Thr Ala Thr Met Ile Leu Ala Tyr  
 325 330 335  
 Ala Met Arg Val Pro Glu Val Ile Ile Asp Ile Ile Ser Gly Ala His  
 340 345 350  
 Trp Gly Val Met Phe Gly Leu Ala Tyr Phe Ser Met Gln Gly Ala Trp  
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 Ala Lys Val Val Val Ile Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Asp Ala Arg  
 370 375 380  
 Thr His Thr Val Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Gln Thr Thr Gly Arg Leu Thr  
 385 390 395 400  
 Ser Leu Phe Asp Met Gly Pro Arg Gln Lys Ile Gln Leu Val Asn Thr  
 405 410 415  
 Asn Gly Ser Trp His Ile Asn Arg Thr Ala Leu Asn Cys Asn Asp Ser  
 420 425 430  
 Leu His Thr Gly Phe Ile Ala Ser Leu Phe Tyr Thr His Ser Phe Asn  
 435 440 445  
 Ser Ser Gly Cys Pro Glu Arg Met Ser Ala Cys Arg Ser Ile Glu Ala  
 450 455 460  
 Phe Arg Val Gly Trp Gly Ala Leu Gln Tyr Glu Asp Asn Val Thr Asn  
 465 470 475 480

Pro Glu Asp Met Arg Pro Tyr Cys Trp His Tyr Pro Pro Arg Gln Cys  
 485 490 495  
 Gly Val Val Ser Ala Lys Thr Val Cys Gly Pro Val Tyr Cys Phe Thr  
 500 505 510  
 Pro Ser Pro Val Val Val Gly Thr Thr Asp Arg Leu Gly Ala Pro Thr  
 515 520 525  
 Tyr Thr Trp Gly Glu Asn Glu Thr Asp Val Phe Leu Leu Asn Ser Thr  
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 Arg Pro Pro Leu Gly Ser Trp Phe Gly Cys Thr Trp Met Asn Ser Ser  
 545 550 555 560  
 Gly Tyr Thr Lys Thr Cys Gly Ala Pro Pro Cys Arg Thr Arg Ala Asp  
 565 570 575  
 Phe Asn Ala Ser Thr Asp Leu Leu Cys Pro Thr Asp Cys Phe Arg Lys  
 580 585 590  
 His Pro Asp Thr Thr Tyr Leu Lys Cys Gly Ser Gly Pro Trp Leu Thr  
 595 600 605  
 Pro Arg Cys Leu Ile Asp Tyr Pro Tyr Arg Leu Trp His Tyr Pro Cys  
 610 615 620  
 Thr Val Asn Tyr Thr Ile Phe Lys Ile Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Gly Val  
 625 630 635 640  
 Glu His Arg Leu Thr Ala Ala Cys Asn Phe Thr Arg Gly Asp Arg Cys  
 645 650 655  
 Asn Leu Glu Asp Arg Asp Arg Ser Gln Leu Ser Pro Leu Leu His Ser  
 660 665 670  
 Thr Thr Glu Trp Ala Ile Leu Pro Cys Ser Tyr Ser Asp Leu Pro Ala  
 675 680 685  
 Leu Ser Thr Gly Leu Leu His Leu His Gln Asn Ile Val Asp Val Gln  
 690 695 700  
 Phe Met Tyr Gly Leu Ser Pro Ala Leu Thr Lys Tyr Ile Val Arg Trp  
 705 710 715 720  
 Glu Trp Val Ile Leu Leu Phe Leu Leu Leu Ala Asp Ala Arg Val Cys  
 725 730 735



Ala Cys Leu Trp Met Leu Ile Leu Leu Gly Gln Ala Glu Ala Ala Leu  
 740 745 750

Glu Asn Leu Val Ile Leu Asn Ala Ala Ser Leu Ala Gly Thr His Gly  
 755 760 765

Leu Val Ser Phe Leu Val Phe Phe Cys Phe Ala Trp Tyr Leu Lys Gly  
 770 775 780

Arg Trp Val Pro Gly Ala Val Tyr Ala Leu Tyr Gly Met Trp Pro Leu  
 785 790 795 800

Leu Leu Leu Leu Leu Ala Leu Pro Gln Arg Ala Tyr Ala Leu Asp Thr  
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Glu Val Ala Ala Ser Cys Gly Gly Val Val Leu Val Gly Leu Met Ala  
 820 825 830

Leu Thr Leu Ser Pro Tyr Tyr Lys Arg Tyr Ile Ser Trp Cys Met Trp  
 835 840 845

Trp Leu Gln Tyr Phe Leu Thr Arg Val Glu Ala Gln Leu His Val Trp  
 850 855 860

Val Pro Pro Leu Asn Val Arg Gly Gly Arg Asp Ala Val Ile Leu Leu  
 865 870 875 880

Met Cys Val Val His Pro Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Ile Thr Lys Leu Leu  
 885 890 895

Leu Ala Ile Phe Gly Pro Leu Trp Ile Leu Gln Ala Ser Leu Leu Lys  
 900 905 910

Val Pro Tyr Phe Val Arg Val Gln Gly Leu Leu Arg Ile Cys Ala Leu  
 915 920 925

Ala Arg Lys Ile Ala Gly Gly His Tyr Val Gln Met Ala Ile Ile Lys  
 930 935 940

Leu Gly Ala Leu Thr Gly Thr Tyr Val Tyr Asn His Leu Thr Pro Leu  
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Arg Asp Trp Ala His Asn Gly Leu Arg Asp Leu Ala Val Ala Val Glu  
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Pro Val Val Phe Ser Arg Met Glu Thr Lys Leu Ile Thr Trp Gly Ala  
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Asp Thr Ala Ala Cys Gly Asp Ile Ile Asn Gly Leu Pro Val Ser Ala  
 995 1000 1005  
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 Lys Gly Trp Arg Leu Leu Ala Pro Ile Thr Ala Tyr Ala Gln Gln Thr  
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 Asn Gln Val Glu Gly Glu Val Gln Ile Val Ser Thr Ala Thr Gln Thr  
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 Val Thr Arg His Ala Asp Val Ile Pro Val Arg Arg Arg Gly Asp Ser  
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 Ser Gly Gly Pro Leu Leu Cys Pro Ala Gly His Ala Val Gly Leu Phe  
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 His Ala Pro Thr Gly Ser Gly Lys Ser Thr Lys Val Pro Ala Ala Tyr  
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Ala Ala Gln Gly Tyr Lys Val Leu Val Leu Asn Pro Ser Val Ala Ala  
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Thr Leu Gly Phe Gly Ala Tyr Met Ser Lys Ala His Gly Val Asp Pro  
1265 1270 1275 1280

Asn Ile Arg Thr Gly Val Arg Thr Ile Thr Thr Gly Ser Pro Ile Thr  
1285 1290 1295

Tyr Ser Thr Tyr Gly Lys Phe Leu Ala Asp Gly Gly Cys Ser Gly Gly  
1300 1305 1310

Ala Tyr Asp Ile Ile Ile Cys Asp Glu Cys His Ser Thr Asp Ala Thr  
1315 1320 1325

Ser Ile Leu Gly Ile Gly Thr Val Leu Asp Gln Ala Glu Thr Ala Gly  
1330 1335 1340

Ala Arg Leu Val Val Leu Ala Thr Ala Thr Pro Pro Gly Ser Val Thr  
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Val Ser His Pro Asn Ile Glu Glu Val Ala Leu Ser Thr Thr Gly Glu  
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Ile Pro Phe Tyr Gly Lys Ala Ile Pro Leu Glu Val Ile Lys Gly Gly  
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Arg His Leu Ile Phe Cys His Ser Lys Lys Lys Cys Asp Glu Leu Ala  
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Ala Lys Leu Val Ala Leu Gly Ile Asn Ala Val Ala Tyr Tyr Arg Gly  
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Thr Gln Arg Arg Gly Arg Thr Gly Arg Gly Lys Pro Gly Ile Tyr Arg  
1490 1495 1500

Phe Val Ala Pro Gly Glu Arg Pro Ser Gly Met Phe Asp Ser Ser Val  
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Leu Cys Glu Cys Tyr Asp Ala Gly Cys Ala Trp Tyr Glu Leu Thr Pro  
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Ala Glu Thr Thr Val Arg Leu Arg Ala Tyr Met Asn Thr Pro Gly Leu  
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Pro Val Cys Gln Asp His Leu Glu Phe Trp Glu Gly Val Phe Thr Gly  
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Leu Thr His Ile Asp Ala His Phe Leu Ser Gln Thr Lys Gln Ser Gly  
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Glu Asn Phe Pro Tyr Leu Val Ala Tyr Gln Ala Thr Val Cys Ala Arg  
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Ala Gln Ala Pro Pro Pro Ser Trp Asp Gln Met Trp Lys Cys Leu Ile  
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Gly Ala Val Gln Asn Glu Val Thr Leu Thr His Pro Ile Thr Lys Tyr  
 1635 1640 1645

Ile Met Thr Cys Met Ser Ala Asp Leu Glu Val Val Thr Ser Thr Trp  
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Val Leu Val Gly Gly Val Leu Ala Ala Leu Ala Ala Tyr Cys Leu Ser  
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Thr Gly Cys Val Val Ile Val Gly Arg Ile Val Leu Ser Gly Lys Pro  
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Glu Glu Cys Ser Gln His Leu Pro Tyr Ile Glu Gln Gly Met Met Leu  
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Ala Glu Gln Phe Lys Gln Lys Ala Leu Gly Leu Leu Gln Thr Ala Ser  
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Arg His Ala Glu Val Ile Thr Pro Ala Val Gln Thr Asn Trp Gln Lys  
 1745 1750 1755 1760

Leu Glu Val Phe Trp Ala Lys His Met Trp Asn Phe Ile Ser Gly Ile  
 1765 1770 1775

Gln Tyr Leu Ala Gly Leu Ser Thr Leu Pro Gly Asn Pro Ala Ile Ala  
 1780 1785 1790

Ser Leu Met Ala Phe Thr Ala Ala Val Thr Ser Pro Leu Thr Thr Gly  
 1795 1800 1805

Gln Thr Leu Leu Phe Asn Ile Leu Gly Gly Trp Val Ala Ala Gln Leu  
 1810 1815 1820

Ala Ala Pro Gly Ala Ala Thr Ala Phe Val Gly Ala Gly Leu Ala Gly  
 1825 1830 1835 1840

Ala Ala Ile Gly Ser Val Gly Leu Gly Lys Val Leu Val Asp Ile Leu  
 1845 1850 1855

Ala Gly Tyr Gly Ala Gly Val Ala Gly Ala Leu Val Ala Phe Lys Ile  
 1860 1865 1870

Met Ser Gly Glu Val Pro Ser Thr Glu Asp Leu Val Asn Leu Leu Pro  
 1875 1880 1885

Ala Ile Leu Ser Pro Gly Ala Leu Val Val Gly Val Val Cys Ala Ala  
 1890 1895 1900

Ile Leu Arg Arg His Val Gly Pro Gly Glu Gly Ala Val Gln Trp Met  
 1905 1910 1915 1920

Asn Arg Leu Ile Ala Phe Ala Ser Arg Gly Asn His Val Ser Pro Thr  
 1925 1930 1935

His Tyr Val Pro Glu Ser Asp Ala Ala Ala Arg Val Thr Ala Ile Leu  
 1940 1945 1950

Ser Ser Leu Thr Val Thr Gln Leu Leu Arg Arg Leu His Gln Trp Ile  
 1955 1960 1965

Ser Ser Glu Cys Thr Thr Pro Cys Ser Gly Ser Trp Leu Arg Asp Ile  
 1970 1975 1980

Trp Asp Trp Ile Cys Glu Val Leu Ser Asp Phe Lys Thr Trp Leu Lys  
 1985 1990 1995 2000

Ala Lys Leu Met Pro Gln Leu Pro Gly Ile Pro Phe Val Ser Cys Gln  
 2005 2010 2015

Arg Gly Tyr Arg Gly Val Trp Arg Gly Asp Gly Ile Met His Thr Arg  
2020 2025 2030

Cys His Cys Gly Ala Glu Ile Thr Gly His Val Lys Asn Gly Thr Met  
2035 2040 2045

Arg Ile Val Gly Pro Arg Thr Cys Arg Asn Met Trp Ser Gly Thr Phe  
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Pro Ile Asn Ala Tyr Thr Thr Gly Pro Cys Thr Pro Leu Pro Ala Pro  
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Asn Tyr Lys Phe Ala Leu Trp Arg Val Ser Ala Glu Glu Tyr Val Glu  
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Ile Arg Arg Val Gly Asp Phe His Tyr Val Ser Gly Met Thr Thr Asp  
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Asn Leu Lys Cys Pro Cys Gln Ile Pro Ser Pro Glu Phe Phe Thr Glu  
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Leu Asp Gly Val Arg Leu His Arg Phe Ala Pro Pro Cys Lys Pro Leu  
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Leu Arg Glu Glu Val Ser Phe Arg Val Gly Leu His Glu Tyr Pro Val  
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Gly Ser Gln Leu Pro Cys Glu Pro Glu Pro Asp Val Ala Val Leu Thr  
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Ser Met Leu Thr Asp Pro Ser His Ile Thr Ala Glu Ala Ala Gly Arg  
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Arg Leu Ala Arg Gly Ser Pro Pro Ser Met Ala Ser Ser Ser Ala Ser  
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Gln Leu Ser Ala Pro Ser Leu Lys Ala Thr Cys Thr Ala Asn His Asp  
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Ser Pro Asp Ala Glu Leu Ile Glu Ala Asn Leu Leu Trp Arg Gln Glu  
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Ala Leu Ser Asn Ser Leu Leu Arg His His Asn Leu Val Tyr Ser Thr  
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Thr Ser Arg Ser Ala Cys Gln Arg Gln Lys Lys Val Thr Phe Asp Arg  
2465 2470 2475 2480

Leu Gln Val Leu Asp Ser His Tyr Gln Asp Val Leu Lys Glu Val Lys  
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Ala Ala Ala Ser Lys Val Lys Ala Asn Leu Leu Ser Val Glu Glu Ala  
2500 2505 2510

Cys Ser Leu Thr Pro Pro His Ser Ala Lys Ser Lys Phe Gly Tyr Gly  
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Ala Lys Asp Val Arg Cys His Ala Arg Lys Ala Val Ala His Ile Asn  
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Ser Val Trp Lys Asp Leu Leu Glu Asp Ser Val Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr  
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Thr Ile Met Ala Lys Asn Glu Val Phe Cys Val Gln Pro Glu Lys Gly  
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Gly Arg Lys Pro Ala Arg Leu Ile Val Phe Pro Asp Leu Gly Val Arg  
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Val Cys Glu Lys Met Ala Leu Tyr Asp Val Val Ser Lys Leu Pro Leu  
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Ala Val Met Gly Ser Ser Tyr Gly Phe Gln Tyr Ser Pro Gly Gln Arg  
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Val Glu Phe Leu Val Gln Ala Trp Lys Ser Lys Lys Thr Pro Met Gly  
 2625 2630 2635 2640

Phe Ser Tyr Asp Thr Arg Cys Phe Asp Ser Thr Val Thr Glu Ser Asp  
 2645 2650 2655

Ile Arg Thr Glu Glu Ala Ile Tyr Gln Cys Cys Asp Leu Asp Pro Gln  
 2660 2665 2670

Ala Arg Val Ala Ile Lys Ser Leu Thr Glu Arg Leu Tyr Val Gly Gly  
 2675 2680 2685

Pro Leu Thr Asn Ser Arg Gly Glu Asn Cys Gly Tyr Arg Arg Cys Arg  
 2690 2695 2700

Ala Ser Gly Val Leu Thr Thr Ser Cys Gly Asn Thr Leu Thr Cys Tyr  
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Ile Lys Ala Arg Ala Ala Cys Arg Ala Ala Gly Leu Gln Asp Cys Thr  
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Met Leu Val Cys Gly Asp Asp Leu Val Val Ile Cys Glu Ser Ala Gly  
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Val Gln Glu Asp Ala Ala Ser Leu Arg Ala Phe Thr Glu Ala Met Thr  
 2755 2760 2765

Arg Tyr Ser Ala Pro Pro Gly Asp Pro Pro Gln Pro Glu Tyr Asp Leu  
 2770 2775 2780



Glu Leu Ile Thr Ser Cys Ser Ser Asn Val Ser Val Ala His Asp Gly  
 2785                      2790                      2795                      2800

Ala Gly Lys Arg Val Tyr Tyr Leu Thr Arg Asp Pro Thr Thr Pro Leu  
                     2805                      2810                      2815

Ala Arg Ala Ala Trp Glu Thr Ala Arg His Thr Pro Val Asn Ser Trp  
                     2820                      2825                      2830

Leu Gly Asn Ile Ile Met Phe Ala Pro Thr Leu Trp Ala Arg Met Ile  
                     2835                      2840                      2845

Leu Met Thr His Phe Phe Ser Val Leu Ile Ala Arg Asp Gln Leu Glu  
                     2850                      2855                      2860

Gln Ala Leu Asn Cys Glu Ile Tyr Gly Ala Cys Tyr Ser Ile Glu Pro  
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Leu Asp Leu Pro Pro Ile Ile Gln Arg Leu His Gly Leu Ser Ala Phe  
                     2885                      2890                      2895

Ser Leu His Ser Tyr Ser Pro Gly Glu Ile Asn Arg Val Ala Ala Cys  
                     2900                      2905                      2910

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Cys Gly Lys Tyr Leu Phe Asn Trp Ala Val Arg Thr Lys Leu Lys Leu  
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Thr Pro Ile Ala Ala Ala Gly Arg Leu Asp Leu Ser Gly Trp Phe Thr  
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Ala Gly Tyr Ser Gly Gly Asp Ile Tyr His Ser Val Ser His Ala Arg  
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Pro Arg Trp Phe Trp Phe Cys Leu Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Gly  
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Ile Tyr Leu Leu Pro Asn Arg  
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&lt;211&gt; 9611

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Hepatitis C virus

&lt;400&gt; 7

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&lt;211&gt; 3015

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Hepatitis C virus

&lt;400&gt; 8

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Arg Arg Pro Gln Asp Val Lys Phe Pro Gly Gly Gly Gln Ile Val Gly  
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Gly Val Tyr Leu Leu Pro Arg Arg Gly Pro Arg Leu Gly Val Arg Ala  
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Thr Arg Lys Thr Ser Glu Arg Ser Gln Pro Arg Gly Arg Arg Gln Pro  
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Ile Pro Lys Asp Arg Arg Ser Thr Gly Lys Ser Trp Gly Lys Pro Gly  
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Tyr Pro Trp Pro Leu Tyr Gly Asn Glu Gly Leu Gly Trp Ala Gly Trp  
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Leu Leu Ser Pro Arg Gly Ser Arg Pro Ser Trp Gly Pro Asn Asp Pro  
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Arg His Arg Ser Arg Asn Val Gly Lys Val Ile Asp Thr Leu Thr Cys  
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Gly Phe Ala Asp Leu Met Gly Tyr Ile Pro Val Val Gly Ala Pro Leu  
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Gly Gly Val Ala Arg Ala Leu Ala His Gly Val Arg Val Leu Glu Asp  
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Gly Val Asn Phe Ala Thr Gly Asn Leu Pro Gly Cys Ser Phe Ser Ile  
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Phe Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Ser Cys Ile Thr Thr Pro Val Ser Ala Ala  
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Glu Val Lys Asn Ile Ser Thr Gly Tyr Met Val Thr Asn Asp Cys Thr  
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Asn Asp Ser Ile Thr Trp Gln Leu Gln Ala Ala Val Leu His Val Pro  
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Gly Cys Val Pro Cys Glu Lys Val Gly Asn Ala Ser Gln Cys Trp Ile  
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Pro Val Ser Pro Asn Val Ala Val Gln Arg Pro Gly Ala Leu Thr Gln  
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Gly Leu Arg Thr His Ile Asp Met Val Val Met Ser Ala Thr Leu Cys  
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Ser Ala Leu Tyr Val Gly Asp Leu Cys Gly Gly Val Met Leu Ala Ala  
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Gln Met Phe Ile Val Ser Pro Gln His His Trp Phe Val Gln Asp Cys  
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Asn Cys Ser Ile Tyr Pro Gly Thr Ile Thr Gly His Arg Met Ala Trp  
 305 310 315 320

Asp Met Met Met Asn Trp Ser Pro Thr Ala Thr Met Ile Leu Ala Tyr  
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Ala Met Arg Val Pro Glu Val Ile Ile Asp Ile Ile Ser Gly Ala His  
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Trp Gly Val Met Phe Gly Leu Ala Tyr Phe Ser Met Gln Gly Ala Trp  
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Ala Lys Val Val Val Ile Leu Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Asp Ala Arg  
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Thr His Thr Val Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Gln Thr Thr Gly Arg Leu Thr  
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Ser Leu Phe Asp Met Gly Pro Arg Gln Lys Ile Gln Leu Val Asn Thr  
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Asn Gly Ser Trp His Ile Asn Arg Thr Ala Leu Asn Cys Asn Asp Ser  
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Leu His Thr Gly Phe Ile Ala Ser Leu Phe Tyr Thr His Ser Phe Asn  
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Ser Ser Gly Cys Pro Glu Arg Met Ser Ala Cys Arg Ser Ile Glu Ala  
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Phe Arg Val Gly Trp Gly Ala Leu Gln Tyr Glu Asp Asn Val Thr Asn  
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Pro Glu Asp Met Arg Pro Tyr Cys Trp His Tyr Pro Pro Arg Gln Cys  
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Pro Arg Cys Leu Ile Asp Tyr Pro Tyr Arg Leu Trp His Tyr Pro Cys  
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Thr Val Asn Tyr Thr Ile Phe Lys Ile Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Gly Val  
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Asn Leu Glu Asp Arg Asp Arg Ser Gln Leu Ser Pro Leu Leu His Ser  
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Leu Ser Thr Gly Leu Leu His Leu His Gln Asn Ile Val Asp Val Gln  
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Phe Met Tyr Gly Leu Ser Pro Ala Leu Thr Lys Tyr Ile Val Arg Trp  
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Glu Lys Leu Val Ile Leu His Ala Ala Ser Ala Ala Ser Cys Asn Gly  
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Arg Val Val Pro Leu Ala Thr Tyr Ser Leu Thr Gly Leu Trp Ser Phe  
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Leu Thr Leu Ser Pro Tyr Tyr Lys Arg Tyr Ile Ser Trp Cys Met Trp  
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Trp Leu Gln Tyr Phe Leu Thr Arg Val Glu Ala Gln Leu His Val Trp  
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Val Pro Pro Leu Asn Val Arg Gly Gly Arg Asp Ala Val Ile Leu Leu  
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Met Cys Val Val His Pro Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Ile Thr Lys Leu Leu  
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Leu Ala Ile Phe Gly Pro Leu Trp Ile Leu Gln Ala Ser Leu Leu Lys  
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Val Pro Tyr Phe Val Arg Val Gln Gly Leu Leu Arg Ile Cys Ala Leu  
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Ala Arg Lys Ile Ala Gly Gly His Tyr Val Gln Met Ala Ile Ile Lys  
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Pro Val Val Phe Ser Arg Met Glu Thr Lys Leu Ile Thr Trp Gly Ala  
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Asp Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Thr Gln Thr Val Asp Phe Ser Leu Asp Pro  
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agcccgaacc ggacgtagcc gtgttgacgt ccatgctcac tgatccctcc catataacag 6900
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catttctgt ttttttttt ttttttttt ttttttttt ttttttttt tttctttcc 9480
ttcttttttt ctttttttt tcccttcttt aatggtggct ccatcttagc cctagtcacg 9540
gctagctgtg aaaggtccgt gagccgcatg actgcagaga gtgctgatac tggcctctct 9600
gcagatcatg t
9611

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&lt;210&gt; 10

&lt;211&gt; 3015

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Hepatitis C virus

&lt;400&gt; 10

Met Ser Thr Asn Pro Lys Pro Gln Arg Lys Thr Lys Arg Asn Thr Asn  
 1 5 10 15

Arg Arg Pro Gln Asp Val Lys Phe Pro Gly Gly Gly Gln Ile Val Gly  
 20 25 30

Gly Val Tyr Leu Leu Pro Arg Arg Gly Pro Arg Leu Gly Val Arg Ala  
 35 40 45

Thr Arg Lys Thr Ser Glu Arg Ser Gln Pro Arg Gly Arg Arg Gln Pro  
 50 55 60

Ile Pro Lys Asp Arg Arg Ser Thr Gly Lys Ser Trp Gly Lys Pro Gly  
 65 70 75 80

Tyr Pro Trp Pro Leu Tyr Gly Asn Glu Gly Leu Gly Trp Ala Gly Trp  
 85 90 95

Leu Leu Ser Pro Arg Gly Ser Arg Pro Ser Trp Gly Pro Asn Asp Pro  
 100 105 110

Arg His Arg Ser Arg Asn Val Gly Lys Val Ile Asp Thr Leu Thr Cys  
 115 120 125

Gly Phe Ala Asp Leu Met Gly Tyr Ile Pro Val Val Gly Ala Pro Leu  
 130 135 140

Gly Gly Val Ala Arg Ala Leu Ala His Gly Val Arg Val Leu Glu Asp  
 145 150 155 160

Gly Val Asn Phe Ala Thr Gly Asn Leu Pro Gly Cys Ser Phe Ser Ile  
 165 170 175

Phe Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Ser Cys Ile Thr Thr Pro Val Ser Ala Ala  
 180 185 190

Glu Val Lys Asn Ile Ser Thr Gly Tyr Met Val Thr Asn Asp Cys Thr  
 195 200 205

Asn Asp Ser Ile Thr Trp Gln Leu Gln Ala Ala Val Leu His Val Pro  
 210 215 220

Gly Cys Val Pro Cys Glu Lys Val Gly Asn Ala Ser Gln Cys Trp Ile

225	230	235	240
Pro Val Ser Pro Asn Val Ala Val Gln Arg Pro Gly Ala Leu Thr Gln			
245	250	255	
Gly Leu Arg Thr His Ile Asp Met Val Val Met Ser Ala Thr Leu Cys			
260	265	270	
Ser Ala Leu Tyr Val Gly Asp Leu Cys Gly Gly Val Met Leu Ala Ala			
275	280	285	
Gln Met Phe Ile Val Ser Pro Gln His His Trp Phe Val Gln Asp Cys			
290	295	300	
Asn Cys Ser Ile Tyr Pro Gly Thr Ile Thr Gly His Arg Met Ala Trp			
305	310	315	320
Asp Met Met Met Asn Trp Ser Pro Thr Ala Thr Met Ile Leu Ala Tyr			
325	330	335	
Ala Met Arg Val Pro Glu Val Ile Ile Asp Ile Ile Ser Gly Ala His			
340	345	350	
Trp Gly Val Met Phe Gly Leu Ala Tyr Phe Ser Met Gln Gly Ala Trp			
355	360	365	
Ala Lys Val Val Val Ile Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Asp Ala Arg			
370	375	380	
Thr His Thr Val Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Gln Thr Thr Gly Arg Leu Thr			
385	390	395	400
Ser Leu Phe Asp Met Gly Pro Arg Gln Lys Ile Gln Leu Val Asn Thr			
405	410	415	
Asn Gly Ser Trp His Ile Asn Arg Thr Ala Leu Asn Cys Asn Asp Ser			
420	425	430	
Leu His Thr Gly Phe Ile Ala Ser Leu Phe Tyr Thr His Ser Phe Asn			
435	440	445	
Ser Ser Gly Cys Pro Glu Arg Met Ser Ala Cys Arg Ser Ile Glu Ala			
450	455	460	
Phe Arg Val Gly Trp Gly Ala Leu Gln Tyr Glu Asp Asn Val Thr Asn			
465	470	475	480
Pro Glu Asp Met Arg Pro Tyr Cys Trp His Tyr Pro Pro Arg Gln Cys			

485	490	495
Gly Val Val Ser Ala Lys Thr Val Cys Gly Pro Val Tyr Cys Phe Thr		
500	505	510
Pro Ser Pro Val Val Val Gly Thr Thr Asp Arg Leu Gly Ala Pro Thr		
515	520	525
Tyr Thr Trp Gly Glu Asn Glu Thr Asp Val Phe Leu Leu Asn Ser Thr		
530	535	540
Arg Pro Pro Leu Gly Ser Trp Phe Gly Cys Thr Trp Met Asn Ser Ser		
545	550	555
Gly Tyr Thr Lys Thr Cys Gly Ala Pro Pro Cys Arg Thr Arg Ala Asp		
565	570	575
Phe Asn Ala Ser Thr Asp Leu Leu Cys Pro Thr Asp Cys Phe Arg Lys		
580	585	590
His Pro Asp Thr Thr Tyr Leu Lys Cys Gly Ser Gly Pro Trp Leu Thr		
595	600	605
Pro Arg Cys Leu Ile Asp Tyr Pro Tyr Arg Leu Trp His Tyr Pro Cys		
610	615	620
Thr Val Asn Tyr Thr Ile Phe Lys Ile Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Gly Val		
625	630	635
Glu His Arg Leu Thr Ala Ala Cys Asn Phe Thr Arg Gly Asp Arg Cys		
645	650	655
Asn Leu Glu Asp Arg Asp Arg Ser Gln Leu Ser Pro Leu Leu His Ser		
660	665	670
Thr Thr Glu Trp Ala Ile Leu Pro Cys Ser Tyr Ser Asp Leu Pro Ala		
675	680	685
Leu Ser Thr Gly Leu Leu His Leu His Gln Asn Ile Val Asp Val Gln		
690	695	700
Phe Met Tyr Gly Leu Ser Pro Ala Leu Thr Lys Tyr Ile Val Arg Trp		
705	710	715
Glu Trp Val Ile Leu Leu Phe Leu Leu Leu Ala Asp Ala Arg Val Cys		
725	730	735
Ala Cys Leu Trp Met Leu Ile Leu Leu Gly Gln Ala Glu Ala Ala Leu		

740	745	750
Glu Asn Leu Val Ile Leu Asn Ala Ala Ser Leu Ala Gly Thr His Gly		
755	760	765
Leu Val Ser Phe Leu Val Phe Phe Cys Phe Ala Trp Tyr Leu Lys Gly		
770	775	780
Arg Trp Val Pro Gly Ala Val Tyr Ala Leu Tyr Gly Met Trp Pro Leu		
785	790	795 800
Leu Leu Leu Leu Leu Ala Leu Pro Gln Arg Ala Tyr Ala Leu Asp Thr		
805	810	815
Glu Val Ala Ala Ser Cys Gly Gly Val Val Leu Val Gly Leu Met Ala		
820	825	830
Leu Thr Leu Ser Pro Tyr Tyr Lys Arg Tyr Ile Ser Trp Cys Met Trp		
835	840	845
Trp Leu Gln Tyr Phe Leu Thr Arg Val Glu Ala Gln Leu His Val Trp		
850	855	860
Val Pro Pro Leu Asn Val Arg Gly Gly Arg Asp Ala Val Ile Leu Leu		
865	870	875 880
Met Cys Val Val His Pro Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Ile Thr Lys Leu Leu		
885	890	895
Leu Ala Ile Phe Gly Pro Leu Trp Ile Leu Gln Ala Ser Leu Leu Lys		
900	905	910
Val Pro Tyr Phe Val Arg Val Gln Gly Leu Leu Arg Ile Cys Ala Leu		
915	920	925
Ala Arg Lys Ile Ala Gly Gly His Tyr Val Gln Met Ala Ile Ile Lys		
930	935	940
Leu Gly Ala Leu Thr Gly Thr Tyr Val Tyr Asn His Leu Thr Pro Leu		
945	950	955 960
Arg Asp Trp Ala His Asn Gly Leu Arg Asp Leu Ala Val Ala Val Glu		
965	970	975
Pro Val Val Phe Ser Arg Met Glu Thr Lys Leu Ile Thr Trp Gly Ala		
980	985	990
Asp Thr Ala Ala Cys Gly Asp Ile Ile Asn Gly Leu Pro Val Ser Ala		



995	1000	1005
Arg Arg Gly Gln Glu Ile Leu Leu Gly Pro Ala Asp Gly Met Val Ser		
1010	1015	1020
Lys Gly Trp Arg Leu Leu Ala Pro Ile Thr Ala Tyr Ala Gln Gln Thr		
1025	1030	1035 1040
Arg Gly Leu Leu Gly Cys Ile Ile Thr Ser Leu Thr Gly Arg Asp Lys		
1045	1050	1055
Asn Gln Val Glu Gly Glu Val Gln Ile Val Ser Thr Ala Thr Gln Thr		
1060	1065	1070
Phe Leu Ala Thr Cys Ile Asn Gly Val Cys Trp Thr Val Tyr His Gly		
1075	1080	1085
Ala Gly Thr Arg Thr Ile Ala Ser Pro Lys Gly Pro Val Ile Gln Met		
1090	1095	1100
Tyr Thr Asn Val Asp Gln Asp Leu Val Gly Trp Pro Ala Pro Gln Gly		
1105	1110	1115 1120
Ser Arg Ser Leu Thr Pro Cys Thr Cys Gly Ser Ser Asp Leu Tyr Leu		
1125	1130	1135
Val Thr Arg His Ala Asp Val Ile Pro Val Arg Arg Arg Gly Asp Ser		
1140	1145	1150
Arg Gly Ser Leu Leu Ser Pro Arg Pro Ile Ser Tyr Leu Lys Gly Ser		
1155	1160	1165
Ser Gly Gly Pro Leu Leu Cys Pro Ala Gly His Ala Val Gly Leu Phe		
1170	1175	1180
Arg Ala Ala Val Cys Thr Arg Gly Val Ala Lys Ala Val Asp Phe Ile		
1185	1190	1195 1200
Pro Val Glu Asn Leu Gly Thr Thr Met Arg Ser Pro Val Phe Thr Asp		
1205	1210	1215
Asn Ser Ser Pro Pro Ala Val Pro Gln Ser Phe Gln Val Ala His Leu		
1220	1225	1230
His Ala Pro Thr Gly Ser Gly Lys Ser Thr Lys Val Pro Ala Ala Tyr		
1235	1240	1245
Ala Ala Gln Gly Tyr Lys Val Leu Val Leu Asn Pro Ser Val Ala Ala		

1250	1255	1260
Thr Leu Gly Phe Gly Ala Tyr Met Ser Lys Ala His Gly Val Asp Pro		
1265	1270	1275 1280
Asn Ile Arg Thr Gly Val Arg Thr Ile Thr Thr Gly Ser Pro Ile Thr		
1285	1290	1295
Tyr Ser Thr Tyr Gly Lys Phe Leu Ala Asp Gly Gly Cys Ser Gly Gly		
1300	1305	1310
Ala Tyr Asp Ile Ile Ile Cys Asp Glu Cys His Ser Thr Asp Ala Thr		
1315	1320	1325
Ser Ile Leu Gly Ile Gly Thr Val Leu Asp Gln Ala Glu Thr Ala Gly		
1330	1335	1340
Ala Arg Leu Val Val Leu Ala Thr Ala Thr Pro Pro Gly Ser Val Thr		
1345	1350	1355 1360
Val Ser His Pro Asn Ile Glu Glu Val Ala Leu Ser Thr Thr Gly Glu		
1365	1370	1375
Ile Pro Phe Tyr Gly Lys Ala Ile Pro Leu Glu Val Ile Lys Gly Gly		
1380	1385	1390
Arg His Leu Ile Phe Cys His Ser Lys Lys Lys Cys Asp Glu Leu Ala		
1395	1400	1405
Ala Lys Leu Val Ala Leu Gly Ile Asn Ala Val Ala Tyr Tyr Arg Gly		
1410	1415	1420
Leu Asp Val Ser Val Ile Pro Thr Ser Gly Asp Val Val Val Val Ser		
1425	1430	1435 1440
Thr Asp Ala Leu Met Thr Gly Phe Thr Gly Asp Phe Asp Ser Val Ile		
1445	1450	1455
Asp Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Thr Gln Thr Val Asp Phe Ser Leu Asp Pro		
1460	1465	1470
Thr Phe Thr Ile Glu Thr Thr Thr Leu Pro Gln Asp Ala Val Ser Arg		
1475	1480	1485
Thr Gln Arg Arg Gly Arg Thr Gly Arg Gly Lys Pro Gly Ile Tyr Arg		
1490	1495	1500
Phe Val Ala Pro Gly Glu Arg Pro Ser Gly Met Phe Asp Ser Ser Val		

1505	1510	1515	1520
Leu Cys Glu Cys Tyr Asp Ala Gly Cys Ala Trp Tyr Glu Leu Thr Pro	1525	1530	1535
Ala Glu Thr Thr Val Arg Leu Arg Ala Tyr Met Asn Thr Pro Gly Leu	1540	1545	1550
Pro Val Cys Gln Asp His Leu Glu Phe Trp Glu Gly Val Phe Thr Gly	1555	1560	1565
Leu Thr His Ile Asp Ala His Phe Leu Ser Gln Thr Lys Gln Ser Gly	1570	1575	1580
Glu Asn Phe Pro Tyr Leu Val Ala Tyr Gln Ala Thr Val Cys Ala Arg	1585	1590	1595
Ala Gln Ala Pro Pro Pro Ser Trp Asp Gln Met Trp Lys Cys Leu Ile	1605	1610	1615
Arg Leu Lys Pro Thr Leu His Gly Pro Thr Pro Leu Leu Tyr Arg Leu	1620	1625	1630
Gly Ala Val Gln Asn Glu Val Thr Leu Thr His Pro Ile Thr Lys Tyr	1635	1640	1645
Ile Met Thr Cys Met Ser Ala Asp Leu Glu Val Val Thr Ser Thr Trp	1650	1655	1660
Val Leu Val Gly Gly Val Leu Ala Ala Leu Ala Ala Tyr Cys Leu Ser	1665	1670	1675
Thr Gly Cys Val Val Ile Val Gly Arg Ile Val Leu Ser Gly Lys Pro	1685	1690	1695
Ala Ile Ile Pro Asp Arg Glu Val Leu Tyr Gln Glu Phe Asp Glu Met	1700	1705	1710
Glu Glu Cys Ser Gln His Leu Pro Tyr Ile Glu Gln Gly Met Met Leu	1715	1720	1725
Ala Glu Gln Phe Lys Gln Lys Ala Leu Gly Leu Leu Gln Thr Ala Ser	1730	1735	1740
Arg His Ala Glu Val Ile Thr Pro Ala Val Gln Thr Asn Trp Gln Lys	1745	1750	1755
Leu Glu Val Phe Trp Ala Lys His Met Trp Asn Phe Ile Ser Gly Ile			

1765	1770	1775
Gln Tyr Leu Ala Gly Leu Ser Thr Leu Pro Gly Asn Pro Ala Ile Ala		
1780	1785	1790
Ser Leu Met Ala Phe Thr Ala Ala Val Thr Ser Pro Leu Thr Thr Gly		
1795	1800	1805
Gln Thr Leu Leu Phe Asn Ile Leu Gly Gly Trp Val Ala Ala Gln Leu		
1810	1815	1820
Ala Ala Pro Gly Ala Ala Thr Ala Phe Val Gly Ala Gly Leu Ala Gly		
1825	1830	1835
Ala Ala Ile Gly Ser Val Gly Leu Gly Lys Val Leu Val Asp Ile Leu		
1845	1850	1855
Ala Gly Tyr Gly Ala Gly Val Ala Gly Ala Leu Val Ala Phe Lys Ile		
1860	1865	1870
Met Ser Gly Glu Val Pro Ser Thr Glu Asp Leu Val Asn Leu Leu Pro		
1875	1880	1885
Ala Ile Leu Ser Pro Gly Ala Leu Val Val Gly Val Val Cys Ala Ala		
1890	1895	1900
Ile Leu Arg Arg His Val Gly Pro Gly Glu Gly Ala Val Gln Trp Met		
1905	1910	1915
Asn Arg Leu Ile Ala Phe Ala Ser Arg Gly Asn His Val Ser Pro Thr		
1925	1930	1935
His Tyr Val Pro Glu Ser Asp Ala Ala Ala Arg Val Thr Ala Ile Leu		
1940	1945	1950
Ser Ser Leu Thr Val Thr Gln Leu Leu Arg Arg Leu His Gln Trp Ile		
1955	1960	1965
Ser Ser Glu Cys Thr Thr Pro Cys Ser Gly Ser Trp Leu Arg Asp Ile		
1970	1975	1980
Trp Asp Trp Ile Cys Glu Val Leu Ser Asp Phe Lys Thr Trp Leu Lys		
1985	1990	1995
Ala Lys Leu Met Pro Gln Leu Pro Gly Ile Pro Phe Val Ser Cys Gln		
2005	2010	2015
Arg Gly Tyr Arg Gly Val Trp Arg Gly Asp Gly Ile Met His Thr Arg		

2020	2025	2030
Cys His Cys Gly Ala Glu Ile Thr Gly His Val Lys Asn Gly Thr Met 2035	2040	2045
Arg Ile Val Gly Pro Arg Thr Cys Arg Asn Met Trp Ser Gly Thr Phe 2050	2055	2060
Pro Ile Asn Ala Tyr Thr Thr Gly Pro Cys Thr Pro Leu Pro Ala Pro 2065	2070	2075 2080
Asn Tyr Lys Phe Ala Leu Trp Arg Val Ser Ala Glu Glu Tyr Val Glu 2085	2090	2095
Ile Arg Arg Val Gly Asp Phe His Tyr Val Ser Gly Met Thr Thr Asp 2100	2105	2110
Asn Leu Lys Cys Pro Cys Gln Ile Pro Ser Pro Glu Phe Phe Thr Glu 2115	2120	2125
Leu Asp Gly Val Arg Leu His Arg Phe Ala Pro Pro Cys Lys Pro Leu 2130	2135	2140
Leu Arg Glu Glu Val Ser Phe Arg Val Gly Leu His Glu Tyr Pro Val 2145	2150	2155 2160
Gly Ser Gln Leu Pro Cys Glu Pro Glu Pro Asp Val Ala Val Leu Thr 2165	2170	2175
Ser Met Leu Thr Asp Pro Ser His Ile Thr Ala Glu Ala Ala Gly Arg 2180	2185	2190
Arg Leu Ala Arg Gly Ser Pro Pro Ser Met Ala Ser Ser Ser Ala Ser 2195	2200	2205
Gln Leu Ser Ala Pro Ser Leu Lys Ala Thr Cys Thr Ala Asn His Asp 2210	2215	2220
Ser Pro Asp Ala Glu Leu Ile Glu Ala Asn Leu Leu Trp Arg Gln Glu 2225	2230	2235 2240
Met Gly Gly Asn Ile Thr Arg Val Glu Ser Glu Asn Lys Val Val Ile 2245	2250	2255
Leu Asp Ser Phe Asp Pro Leu Val Ala Glu Glu Asp Glu Arg Glu Val 2260	2265	2270
Ser Val Pro Ala Glu Ile Leu Arg Lys Ser Arg Arg Phe Ala Arg Ala		

2275	2280	2285
Leu Pro Val Trp Ala Arg Pro Asp Tyr Asn Pro Pro Leu Val Glu Thr		
2290	2295	2300
Trp Lys Lys Pro Asp Tyr Glu Pro Pro Val Val His Gly Cys Pro Leu		
2305	2310	2315 2320
Pro Pro Pro Arg Ser Pro Pro Val Pro Pro Pro Arg Lys Lys Arg Thr		
2325	2330	2335
Val Val Leu Thr Glu Ser Thr Leu Ser Thr Ala Leu Ala Glu Leu Ala		
2340	2345	2350
Thr Lys Ser Phe Gly Ser Ser Ser Thr Ser Gly Ile Thr Gly Asp Asn		
2355	2360	2365
Thr Thr Thr Ser Ser Glu Pro Ala Pro Ser Gly Cys Pro Pro Asp Ser		
2370	2375	2380
Asp Val Glu Ser Tyr Ser Ser Met Pro Pro Leu Glu Gly Glu Pro Gly		
2385	2390	2395 2400
Asp Pro Asp Leu Ser Asp Gly Ser Trp Ser Thr Val Ser Ser Gly Ala		
2405	2410	2415
Asp Thr Glu Asp Val Val Cys Cys Ser Met Ser Tyr Ser Trp Thr Gly		
2420	2425	2430
Ala Leu Val Thr Pro Cys Ala Ala Glu Glu Gln Lys Leu Pro Ile Asn		
2435	2440	2445
Ala Leu Ser Asn Ser Leu Leu Arg His His Asn Leu Val Tyr Ser Thr		
2450	2455	2460
Thr Ser Arg Ser Ala Cys Gln Arg Gln Lys Lys Val Thr Phe Asp Arg		
2465	2470	2475 2480
Leu Gln Val Leu Asp Ser His Tyr Gln Asp Val Leu Lys Glu Val Lys		
2485	2490	2495
Ala Ala Ala Ser Lys Val Lys Ala Asn Leu Leu Ser Val Glu Glu Ala		
2500	2505	2510
Cys Ser Leu Thr Pro Pro His Ser Ala Lys Ser Lys Phe Gly Tyr Gly		
2515	2520	2525
Ala Lys Asp Val Arg Cys His Ala Arg Lys Ala Val Ala His Ile Asn		

2530	2535	2540
Ser Val Trp Lys Asp Leu Leu Glu Asp Ser Val Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr		
2545	2550	2555 2560
Thr Ile Met Ala Lys Asn Glu Val Phe Cys Val Gln Pro Glu Lys Gly		
2565	2570	2575
Gly Arg Lys Pro Ala Arg Leu Ile Val Phe Pro Asp Leu Gly Val Arg		
2580	2585	2590
Val Cys Glu Lys Met Ala Leu Tyr Asp Val Val Ser Lys Leu Pro Leu		
2595	2600	2605
Ala Val Met Gly Ser Ser Tyr Gly Phe Gln Tyr Ser Pro Gly Gln Arg		
2610	2615	2620
Val Glu Phe Leu Val Gln Ala Trp Lys Ser Lys Lys Thr Pro Met Gly		
2625	2630	2635 2640
Phe Ser Tyr Asp Thr Arg Cys Phe Asp Ser Thr Val Thr Glu Ser Asp		
2645	2650	2655
Ile Arg Thr Glu Glu Ala Ile Tyr Gln Cys Cys Asp Leu Asp Pro Gln		
2660	2665	2670
Ala Arg Val Ala Ile Lys Ser Leu Thr Glu Arg Leu Tyr Val Gly Gly		
2675	2680	2685
Pro Leu Thr Asn Ser Arg Gly Glu Asn Cys Gly Tyr Arg Arg Cys Arg		
2690	2695	2700
Ala Ser Gly Val Leu Thr Thr Ser Cys Gly Asn Thr Leu Thr Cys Tyr		
2705	2710	2715 2720
Ile Lys Ala Arg Ala Ala Cys Arg Ala Ala Gly Leu Gln Asp Cys Thr		
2725	2730	2735
Met Leu Val Cys Gly Asp Asp Leu Val Val Ile Cys Glu Ser Ala Gly		
2740	2745	2750
Val Gln Glu Asp Ala Ala Ser Leu Arg Ala Phe Thr Glu Ala Met Thr		
2755	2760	2765
Arg Tyr Ser Ala Pro Pro Gly Asp Pro Pro Gln Pro Glu Tyr Asp Leu		
2770	2775	2780
Glu Leu Ile Thr Ser Cys Ser Ser Asn Val Ser Val Ala His Asp Gly		

2785	2790	2795	2800
Ala Gly Lys Arg Val Tyr Tyr Leu Thr Arg Asp Pro Thr Thr Pro Leu			
2805		2810	2815
Ala Arg Ala Ala Trp Glu Thr Ala Arg His Thr Pro Val Asn Ser Trp			
2820		2825	2830
Leu Gly Asn Ile Ile Met Phe Ala Pro Thr Leu Trp Ala Arg Met Ile			
2835		2840	2845
Leu Met Thr His Phe Phe Ser Val Leu Ile Ala Arg Asp Gln Leu Glu			
2850		2855	2860
Gln Ala Leu Asn Cys Glu Ile Tyr Gly Ala Cys Tyr Ser Ile Glu Pro			
2865		2870	2875
Leu Asp Leu Pro Pro Ile Ile Gln Arg Leu His Gly Leu Ser Ala Phe			
2885		2890	2895
Ser Leu His Ser Tyr Ser Pro Gly Glu Ile Asn Arg Val Ala Ala Cys			
2900		2905	2910
Leu Arg Lys Leu Gly Val Pro Pro Leu Arg Ala Trp Arg His Arg Ala			
2915		2920	2925
Arg Ser Val Arg Ala Arg Leu Leu Ser Arg Gly Gly Arg Ala Ala Ile			
2930		2935	2940
Cys Gly Lys Tyr Leu Phe Asn Trp Ala Val Arg Thr Lys Leu Lys Leu			
2945		2950	2955
Thr Pro Ile Ala Ala Ala Gly Arg Leu Asp Leu Ser Gly Trp Phe Thr			
2965		2970	2975
Ala Gly Tyr Ser Gly Gly Asp Ile Tyr His Ser Val Ser His Ala Arg			
2980		2985	2990
Pro Arg Trp Phe Trp Phe Cys Leu Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Gly			
2995		3000	3005
Ile Tyr Leu Leu Pro Asn Arg			
3010		3015	

&lt;210&gt; 11

&lt;211&gt; 24

&lt;212&gt; DNA



<213> Hepatitis C virus

<400> 11

actggacacg gaggtggccg cgtc

24

<210> 12

<211> 24

<212> DNA

<213> Hepatitis C virus

<400> 12

ttgttcttgt cgggttaatg ggcg

24

<210> 13

<211> 24

<212> DNA

<213> Hepatitis C virus

<400> 13

gggtgtacta cacacatgag taag

24

<210> 14

<211> 22

<212> DNA

<213> Hepatitis C virus

<400> 14

aagcgcccct aacttgatga tg

22

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(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
14 December 2000 (14.12.2000)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 00/75338 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification?: **C12N 15/51**,  
C07K 14/18, 16/18, A61K 38/00, 39/00

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/15446

(22) International Filing Date: 2 June 2000 (02.06.2000)

(74) Agents: **FEILER, William, S.** et al.; Morgan & Finnegan,  
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(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/137,693 4 June 1999 (04.06.1999) US

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE,  
DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU,  
ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS,  
LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO,  
NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR,  
TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(63) Related by continuation (CON) or continuation-in-part  
(CIP) to earlier application:  
US 60/137,693 (CON)  
Filed on 4 June 1999 (04.06.1999)

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,  
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian  
patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European  
patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE,  
IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG,  
CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:  
— with international search report

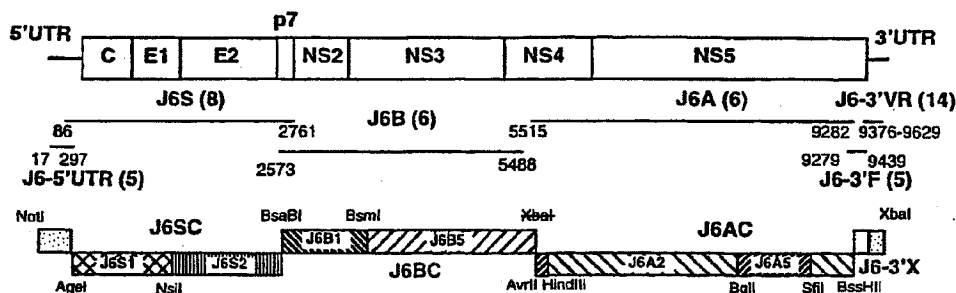
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(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
1 November 2001

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: CLONED GENONE OF INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS C VIRUS OF GENOTYPE 2a AND USES THEREOF



(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses nucleic acid sequence which encodes infectious hepatitis C virus of strain HC-J6<sub>CH</sub>, genotype 2a, and the use of the sequence, and polypeptides encoded by all or part of the sequence, in the development of vaccines and diagnostics for HCV and in the development of screening assays for the identification of antiviral agents for HCV.

WO 00/75338 A3

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 00/15446

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C12N15/51 C07K14/18 C07K16/18 A61K38/00 A61K39/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07K C12N A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, EMBASE, MEDLINE, STRAND, CAB Data, WPI Data, BIOSIS

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

6 February 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

23. 02. 2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Hix, R

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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## C/(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	M. YANAGI ET AL.: "Transcripts of a chimeric cDNA clone of Hepatitis C virus genotype 1b are infectious in vivo." VIROLOGY, vol. 244, 1998, pages 161-172, XP002149625 cited in the application the whole document	1-20, 23, 24, 29-37
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Y	YONG YUAN ZHANG ET AL: "Greater diversity of hepatitis C virus genotypes found in Hong Kong than in Mainland China." JOURNAL OF CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY, (1995) 33/11 (2931-2934)., XP000911893 the whole document	1-20, 23, 24, 29-37
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International Application No

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Y	DE FRANCESCO R. ET AL: "A zinc binding site in viral serine proteinases." BIOCHEMISTRY, (1996) 35/41 (13282-13287) , XP000981213 the whole document	12-26, 29-32, 35-37
Y	STEMPNIAK M. ET AL: "The NS3 proteinase domain of hepatitis C virus is a zinc-containing enzyme." JOURNAL OF VIROLOGY, (1997) 71/4 (2881-2886), XP000981212 the whole document	12-26, 29-32, 35-37
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A	WO 91 15575 A (CHIRON CORP) 17 October 1991 (1991-10-17)  the whole document	12-26, 29-32, 35-37
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 00/15446

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
Y	MARTIN J. ET AL: "In vitro effect of amantadine and interferon.alpha.- 2a on hepatitis C virus markers in cultured peripheral blood mononuclear cells from hepatitis C virus-infected patients." ANTIVIRAL RESEARCH, (1999) 42/1 (59-70). , XP000980547 the whole document	23-28
Y	URUSHIHARA A. ET AL: "Changes in antibody titers to hepatitis C virus following interferon therapy for chronic infection." JOURNAL OF MEDICAL VIROLOGY, (1994) 42/4 (348-356). , XP000980020 the whole document	23-28
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X	P.L. CALVO ET AL.: "Hepatitis C virus heteroduplex tracking assay for genotype determination reveals diverging Genotype 2 isolates in Italian hemodialysis patients." JOURNAL OF CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY, vol. 36, no. 1, January 1998 (1998-01), pages 227-233, XP000981214 the whole document	12-24, 29-32, 35-37
X	BUKH J ET AL: "At least 12 genotypes of hepatitis C virus predicted by sequence analysis of the putative E1 gene of isolates collected worldwide." PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF USA,US,NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE. WASHINGTON, vol. 90, September 1994 (1994-09), pages 8234-8238, XP002159434 ISSN: 0027-8424 cited in the application the whole document	12-24, 29-32, 35-37
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 00/15446

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/15446

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/15446

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US 00/15446

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-11, 33, 34,  
37 completely and partially claims 12-20, 23, 24,  
29-32, 35, 36 and 37

A purified and isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes human hepatitis C virus of genotype 2a, DNA constructs comprising said nucleic acid, RNA transcript of said construct, cell transfected with said transcript, hepatitis C virus polypeptide produced by said cell and whose genome comprises said nucleic acid, method for assaying candidate antiviral agents against for activity against HCV using said cell containing HCV, antibody to said polypeptide or to said HCV, method for determining the susceptibility of cells in vitro to support HCV infection using the cells transfected with the nucleic acid of claim 1 and compositions comprising said polypeptide suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

2. Claims: 25 and 26 completely and 12-23, 24, 29-32, 35,  
36 and 37 partially

A hepatitis C virus polypeptide produced by a cell transfected with a DNA construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule which encodes human hepatitis C virus of genotype 2a which is an NS3 protease and method for assaying candidate antiviral agents against for activity against HCV comprising exposing said HCV protease to candidate antiviral agents, antibody to said polypeptide or HCV and compositions comprising said polypeptide suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

3. Claims: 12-23, 24, 29-32, 35, 36 and 37 partially

A hepatitis C virus polypeptide produced by a cell transfected with a DNA construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule which encodes human hepatitis C virus of genotype 2a which is an E1 protein, antibody to said polypeptide or HCV and compositions comprising said polypeptide suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

4. Claims: 12-23, 24, 29-32, 35, 36 and 37 partially

A hepatitis C virus polypeptide produced by a cell transfected with a DNA construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule which encodes human hepatitis C virus of genotype 2a which is an E2 protein, antibody to said polypeptide or HCV and compositions comprising said polypeptide suspended



FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

in a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

5. Claims: 12-23, 24, 29-32, 35, 36 and 37 partially

A hepatitis C virus polypeptide produced by a cell transfected with a DNA construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule which encodes human hepatitis C virus of genotype 2a which is an NS4 protein, antibody to said polypeptide or HCV and compositions comprising said polypeptide suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient..

6. Claim : 27 and 28 completely

Antiviral agent identified as having antiviral activity for HCV by the method of claims 23 and/or 25.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In .ational Application No  
PCT/US 00/15446

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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		JP 6133778 A	17-05-1994
		CA 2075611 A	10-02-1993
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